

TOMORROW

The Franchise Affair
From palaces and prisons come classes of people in Britain who cannot vote tomorrow. Modern Times talks to the disenfranchised few.
Sport's outcasts
David Miller continues his series on the sporting world's boycott of South Africa.
Hard left
Bernard Levin argues that the real threat to democracy in Britain comes not from the Communist Party or the Militant Tendency, but from the quiet men of the "fascist left".
Mailers' plunge
Norman Mailer's new novel about ancient Egypt and modern America is published. The Times critic finds it a plunge to disaster.

Massacre Nazi jailed for life

An East German judge jailed Heinz Barth, a former Nazi officer, for life for war crimes including the Oradour massacre. A defence plea for leniency on the ground that he had been under orders was dismissed. Page 6

FINANCIAL TIMES

Talks intended to get the strike-bound Financial Times back into publication before polling day were continuing, apparently with little prospect of a settlement. Mirror Group Newspapers has quadrupled its profits to £8.1m. Pages 2, 17, 18

Bar entry limit

For the first time the number of students entering for Bar training in England and Wales is to be restricted. The reason is the big increases in numbers seeking entry. Page 2

Peers move out

Two neighbouring peers are to give up their family homes because of financial pressures. Lord Devon is to rent Powderham Castle while Lord Clifford of Chudleigh is to move to Guernsey. Page 3

Summit hope

All-night talks were taking place in Addis Ababa to win over a number of boycotting states of the Organisation of African Unity. A spokesman said it was proposed that the summit would open today. Earlier report, page 7

Trafalgar fails

Trafalgar House tried to raise its stake in P & O to 4.9 per cent but failed as P & O's shares rose 2p above the bid price of 207p. Page 17

Middlesex top

Middlesex, last year's county champions, moved to the top of the table after beating Kent by four wickets at Dartford. This was despite Underwood who took six for 44. Page 24

Leader page, 15

Letters: On the election, from Mr M Hasseck and others; nuclear control, from Professor M Gowing.
Leading articles: Alliance campaign; Falklands and the election; Secret services.
Features, pages 12-14
David Watt says Mrs Thatcher has been allowed to get away with it. Should the next airport land in central London? Jock Bruce-Gardyne's election column: The young unemployed. Spectrum: Disaster at Bluff Cove. Wednesday Page: Learning to be a parent: The Times Cook: Valium-addiction; Alan Frank's Diary: Obituary, page 16
Hans Lerp, Daniele Amfitheatrof

Home News

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Jenkins and Steel split over future of nuclear deterrent

● A rift has appeared between Mr Roy Jenkins and Mr David Steel over the future of Britain's nuclear deterrent
● Latest opinion polls show Conservatives heading for a landslide, with the Alliance and Labour battling for a poor second place.
● Mr Michael Heseltine, the Defence Secretary, offered voters in the Labour heartlands a share in power by electing Conservative MPs.

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Roy Jenkins, the Alliance prime minister-designate, yesterday exposed a fundamental rift with Mr David Steel over the future of the British nuclear deterrent.

Both party leaders told an Alliance press conference that the Polaris force should be included in merged strategic and intermediate nuclear disarmament talks at Geneva.

But Mr Jenkins then added that if those talks failed to produce a breakthrough, an Alliance government would keep an independent British deterrent as a last resort weapon, for the foreseeable future.

There is no mention of an independent deterrent in the joint manifesto of the two parties and Mr Steel has previously insisted, in agreement with Dr David Owen, that Polaris should be under NATO control as part of the Western deterrent.

The Liberal leader said in a key speech on December 16: "Liberals have always opposed the concept of an independent nuclear deterrent, believing it to be either surplus to collective Western action or useless when challenged independently. I have never found convincing the argument that 'tearing off the arm' of the Soviet bear would be a comforting thought."

if at the same time it precipitated national suicide."

He told The Times, after he had made that speech, that he had reached agreement with Dr Owen "on the no-independent-use and the assigning to NATO."

Mr Jenkins said yesterday: "We are not wedded to an independent British deterrent, but equally we do not believe in"

careful formula so often used by Mr Michael Foot during the election campaign: "The position in the manifesto is the position which both parties have endorsed. Of course, we want to phase out Polaris as soon as possible, within the context of bilateral negotiations with the Soviet Union."

He added: "There is no question of unilaterally phasing out Polaris. It is a question of negotiating Polaris away in return for reductions on the Soviet side."

The Liberal leader made no comment on independent use of the deterrent, but it is understood that he stands by the views expressed last December, a faithful reflection of Liberal Party sensitivities on the issue.

The similarities with Labour's defence difficulties are remarkable, even to the point of Mr Steel reflecting Mr Foot and Mr Enoch Powell's views about "national suicide". He also evidently feels that the manifesto can be used to cover the underlying divide which persists between himself, Dr Owen and Mr Jenkins.

Ironically, Mr Jenkins volunteered a statement on Alliance defence and disarmament policies at the start of the press conference, in order to criticize "contradictions" in Conservative policy and "confusions" in Labour policy.

"When I arrived above the ship I had one minute's hovering time left. The pilot said he had to use hand signals to show he wanted to land. Then the ship's crew guided him down. Sub-lieutenant Watson, who lives near Yeovil, Somerset, said he was waiting 'to face the music' on return to the Illustrious, which was on its way to take part in NATO exercise when the incident occurred. He said the Sea Harrier was not damaged."

Señor Altor Sano, the master of the 2,300 ton Alraigo, said they spotted the Sea Harrier when the ship was about 120 miles south-west of Oporto, bound for Tenerife.

Their radio could not communicate with the Sea Harrier but they realized, Señor Sano said, that the pilot was trying to land, and so the ship's engines were stopped. "It nearly went right over the edge."

The crew had got out the fire

hoses as a precaution. Then they lashed down the aircraft.

Señor Sano said Sub-lieutenant Watson was very shaken as he got out and had spent a bad night. He was staying below, resting, the master said.

The aircraft's undercarriage was reported to have been damaged, including the loss of a wheel. Damage was also said to have been done to the containers.

The owners of the Alraigo said they had contacted the Spanish Defence Ministry, which had indicated the ship should stay on course for the Canaries.

A Spanish Foreign Ministry spokesman said the pilot and his aircraft would be handed over on arrival at Tenerife. The incident was being treated as "a humanitarian case, just like other forced landings."

Although there was a certain amount of praise in flying circles yesterday for the pilot's skill, there will certainly be an inquiry into how it came about that he was unable to return safely to the Illustrious, Rodney Cowton writes.

Sub-lieutenant Watson joined the Royal Navy in 1979 on a 12-year commission. After converting to Sea Harriers at the Royal Naval Air Station at Yeovilton, he joined 801 Squadron on the Illustrious last month.

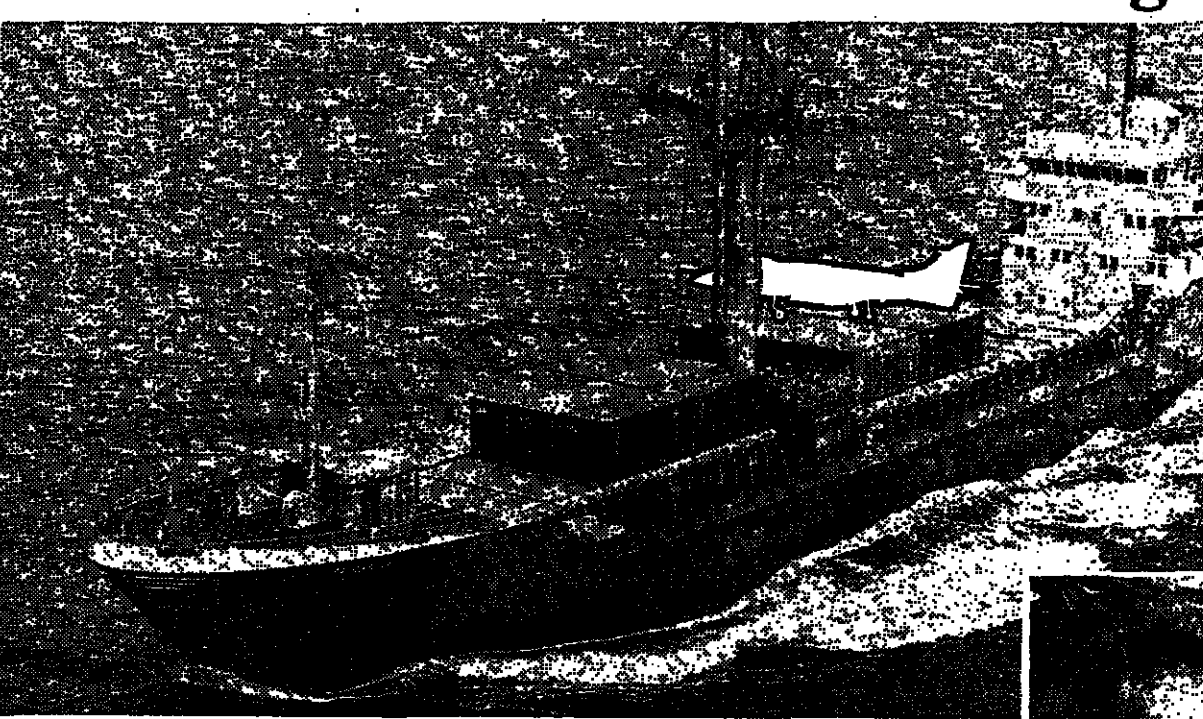
The Alraigo, built in 1977, has an overall length of just over 300ft and a maximum beam of about 45ft. By comparison, the Illustrious is 677ft long overall and the flight deck is 550ft long.

Expectations from the Ministry of Defence are believed to be going to Tenerife to recover the Sea-Harrier, which is thought not to be capable of flying.

Although indications from Spain are that no salvage claim is likely, legal sources suggested one would be possible under British and international law.

Business News, page 17

Harrier force lands on deck cargo



The Alraigo (above), on which Sub-lieutenant Watson (right) landed his Sea Harrier.

Pilot put down with one minute's fuel left

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

A Royal Navy Sea Harrier jump-jet, whose pilot made a dramatic forced landing on a Spanish cargo ship in the Atlantic, ending nose-up on containers, will be unloaded when the ship reaches the Canaries tomorrow.

The landing was made in force five winds, a the ship pitched in 11ft waves. The £7m aircraft touched down between a derrick and the ship's bridge. Sub-lieutenant Ian Watson, aged 25, serving with the Aircraft carrier Illustrious, and speaking by radio telephone from the Alraigo as the vessel was bound for Tenerife yesterday, said he had found himself with fuel enough for only six to seven minutes flying after losing contact with the Illustrious on his way back from a sea reconnaissance mission on Monday night.

"I used my radar to find the nearest ship...I made a low pass to see if I could land on its deck, which was filled by containers."

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Business News, page 17

Health of Andropov declines rapidly

Moscow (AP) - The health of Mr Yuri Andropov apparently has taken a sharp turn for the worse. Sources who have seen the Soviet party leader in the past two days say he needs assistance in walking and that his right hand shook uncontrollably at a dinner given in honour of President Mamo Koivisto of Finland.

Three independent sources said two aides supported Mr Andropov yesterday: Supported by aides

Andropov, who turns 69 next Wednesday, at either elbow as he walked into a Kremlin banquet hall on Monday night. He needed assistance in sitting down and again upon rising to leave.

The sources said that Mr Andropov apparently felt unsteady enough to remain seated while delivering his speech and that his right hand shook

uncontrollably when he reached out to receive a written version of President Koivisto's reply.

Mr Andropov appears to have lost much weight since he became party leader. An official Soviet source reported recently that Mr Andropov suffers from Parkinson's disease. Others have said that he has heart and kidney problems, which reportedly forced him to seek hospital treatment in March.

The health of the Soviet leader takes on special significance in this period leading up to a session of the Supreme Soviet, the Soviet Parliament, starting on June 16.

Such meetings are traditionally preceded by meetings of the Communist Party's Central Committee which rubber stamps important decisions taken by the ruling Politburo. Mr Andropov, as General Secretary of the party, is the head of the 11-member Politburo.

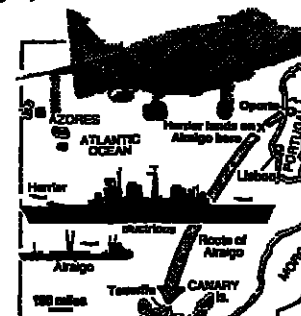
He is believed to be facing a stiff challenge from Mr Konstantin Chernenko, aged 71, the man the late Mr Brezhnev was said to have selected as his successor.

Mr Chernenko, reported by the same sources to have looked frail at the Koivisto dinner, was in hospital last month with pneumonia.

Sources who saw Mr Andropov in person a year ago say the change in his appearance points to a rapid decline in his health.

Volga toll tops 100

Moscow (Reuters) - More than 100 people were killed in the accident on the River Volga on Sunday evening, when the entire top deck of a Soviet passenger ship was ripped away after it rammed a railway bridge, a spokesman for Intourist, the state tourist agency, said yesterday.



Sub-lieutenant Watson

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Business News, page 17

Duchess of Kent told to rest

The Duchess of Kent has cancelled all her official engagements for the next two months on the advice of her doctors, it was announced yesterday.

The Duchess, aged 50, has been told she needs more time to recover from an operation she had in April to remove an ovarian cyst. A spokesman at York House said: "A longer period for recuperation than was at first expected is necessary so that her royal highness can regain her weight and strength following her operation."

The spokesman stressed: "There is no serious underlying cause for her condition."

The Duchess was said to be "very disappointed" at having to cancel her engagements for June and July, which included official visits to Wimbledon.

The operation to remove the cyst was carried out at the King Edward VII's Hospital, for Officers in London, where the Duchess has been a patient several times in recent years.

The Duchess left hospital on May 1 and returned to York House to convalesce. She was determined to be seen again in public as soon as possible after the operation but she has had to cancel a number of engagements on medical advice.

The Duke of Kent, who was due to undertake a number of the engagements with his wife, will now make the visits on his own.

Spending boost for Tories

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent
The Government's economic policies received a pre-election boost yesterday from the latest batch of official statistics.

These show record consumer spending on the shops, only modest rises in the prices charged by British industry for goods leaving factories and a slowdown in money growth, pointing the way to a possible cut in interest rates after the election.

But other figures confirm a sharp deterioration in Britain's balance of payments surplus on current account as imports have surged, while huge sums continue to flow into assets abroad, including overseas stocks and shares.

Price increases charged by industry for goods at the factory gate are continuing to moderate, helped by a drop in the cost of fuel and raw materials in the past couple of months because of the strengthening pound, and by the slowdown in pay deals.

Meanwhile, news of record business in the shops in April will buoy hopes for continuing economic recovery, while the announcement that money growth in the month to mid-May was less than half the exceptional April increase has allayed City fears that interest rates might have to rise soon to curb excessive monetary expansion.

Business News, page 17

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By David Young

The future of the Nissan

InterCall.

and has describe the trade mission as "something of a last-ditch effort to resolve matters by discussion".

Lincoln

The prototype was designed and

John (100s.)

By Bill Johnstone
Electronics Correspondent

By David Walker

100

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

ates entering the one-year

keep numbers admitted to the school and those called to the practising Bar roughly in line. Last year 1,418 students were admitted to the vocational course.

From Richard Ford

Dr James Kerr, administrative head of the Glasgow unit said the drug had been in use

Cab driver ran down his wife

WPC stops

WPC Fosbury saved him from falling and then a third

Airline off

By Paul Rontledge
Labor Editor

contacts during the lengthy
peace process, and conciliation
officials were shuttling between
management and union with
different ideas for a return to
work.

WPC Fosbury saved him from falling and then a third

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

claim, initiated last autumn, to have the world's longest non-stop passenger service: 7,487 miles from Los Angeles to Sydney, taking 14 hours.

meat on Sunday. It is designed to meet a growing demand from businessmen to reach Hong Kong in time to start work there fresh on Monday morning, the airline said.

Sale room

Prints sold for £78,345

The most conspicuous of

Yesterday in Bond Street, Sotheby's offered arms and armour, making £60,942 with 8 per cent bought in. The

Box baby named

A baby boy, found in a cardboard box in London two days after birth, has been named Alec by nurses at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, after Alec Bourne, a famous obstetrician.

"She showed considerable courage. The man could have killed her over the bridge as well."

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Private schools increase pupil share despite large rise in charges

By Frances Gibb

Private schools have increased their share of the school population despite a 10 per cent rise in fees in the past year, according to a survey published yesterday.

But independent head teachers said yesterday that they did wish private schools to benefit from further cuts in funding on state schools. They said that the private sector's survival.

The survey, by the Independent Schools Information Service (Isis), shows that the number of pupils at independent schools dropped this year 3,000, or 1.1 per cent, a fall in numbers for the second year running because of a dip in birthrate.

But there had been a much greater drop, estimated at 3.2 per cent, or 250,000, in the state sector in the 12 months up to January.

Independent schools increased their fees by an average 10 per cent in 1982, often to improve staff-pupil ratios, now 17 and 1 to 15 respectively for boys' and girls' senior schools.

Average annual fees at independent schools in January were £3,080 for boarders, £1,930 for pupils at combined day and boarding schools and £1,275 for pupils at day schools.

Fees among the main boys' independent schools, which are more expensive, vary from £300 to £1,200 a term for day fees, and from £800 to £1,700 a term for boarders.

But head teachers warned at a press conference in London yesterday of the dangers of further spending cuts which would widen the gap between the two sectors.

Mr Roger Ellis, chairman of the Headmasters' Conference and Master of Marlborough College, said: "It is a very short term view to think we benefit from fewer resources in the state sector."

Independent schools benefited from a healthy, prosperous education system as a whole, he said. "If the maintained sector is starved of further resources, the differences between the two sectors become greater and greater and the politics of envy that much sharper." That could make

abolition of private schools more likely, Mr Ellis added.

Another head teacher, Mrs Pauline Mathias, president of the Girls' Schools Association and headmistress of More House School, London, said: "We do not want more spending on assisted places at the expense of the maintained sector, but more money generally for that sector."

The survey showed that although the number of pupils helped by the Government's assisted places scheme in its second year rose to 5,100, that was offset by 3,000 fewer places taken up by local authorities at the schools, at 16,930.

A number of pupils left their schools at 15-plus to go either to state schools and sixth-form colleges or, in the case of girls, to boys' schools, although that trend is thought to be declining.

A preparatory school in Thanet, Kent, is to close next month. Parents of 73 boys at Grenham House, Birchington, have been told the school must close because the number of pupils will drop to 50 by September.

Vietnamese grudge killed 7, court told

Two Vietnamese refugees tried out a revenge attack on illegal Soho gambling club, arising with a fire in which seven people died, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Only Mr Johnny Ploom, aged 3, survived the fire in the basement club in Gerrard Street, the centre of London's Chinese communities, Mr Roy Miot, for the prosecution, said.

Vu Linh Nguyen, aged 24, of nights House, Huntsman Street, Walworth, and Van Minh Phan, aged 21 of Rutland House, Milner Estate, Woolwich, both south London, deny arson and murder. Both arrived in Britain in 1979.

On July 17, a number of Vietnamese, including Van Minh Phan, were gambling at the club, Mr Miot said. One of them won £70 and the party became excited and noisy. An argument began and one of the Vietnamese was asked to leave.

The others followed and a fight started in the street. "The and of Vietnamese marched off down Gerrard Street, armed themselves with sticks and broken bottles and returned to

the club making a lot of noise and banging on parked cars."

When the police were called, the Vietnamese disappeared and the owners of the club decided to close for the night. At 1.30 am, the eight remaining people, all connected to the club, were preparing to go home.

"It was then that the Vietnamese reappeared, bent, as became terribly obvious, on the most savage revenge," Mr Miot said. They returned in a car owned by Vu Linh Nguyen and entered the club with sticks and a can of petrol.

"The occupants of the club were held at bay while petrol was poured over the gaming tables and area inside the door, and the Vietnamese set fire to it as they ran out", he said.

There was only one exit and seven of the eight men inside were trapped and killed. They included three Hong Kong Chinese who ran the club, the cleaner, a student and a Vietnamese who slept there.

Mr Ploom ran out of the club and later identified both defendants to the police. The trial continues today.

'Gandhi' to launch cable TV

By Bill Johnston

Electronics Correspondent

The Oscar-winning film *Gandhi* and *Chariots of Fire* will be two of the first products offered next year to British cable television operators by a new initiative from a consortium led by Goldcrest Films and Television.

The new company, which has yet to be named, will offer a television channel by satellite to cable operators, who will distribute the product for £8 to £10 a month to subscribers. The other partners are Columbia Pictures Industries, a subsidiary of Coca-Cola; CBS; Home Box Office, a subsidiary of Time Inc; and Twentieth-Century Fox Film Corporation.

Goldcrest will have 51 per cent of the equity although it is prepared to share that with another British company.

The group expects to use a satellite transponder leased from Mercury Communications, the private telecommunications network. The company, which does not expect to make a profit until the fourth year, could be in competition with Satellite Television, currently considering a bid for a 65 per cent share by News International.

Satellite Television will be transmitting on the new European satellite Eutelsat-1, due to be launched this month. The initial plan is to offer of news, sport, drama and comedy for about four hours a day, with programming called from British, American and Australian sources. Live sports coverage and news feature prominently in the company's future development plans.

Hail damage to crops could cost millions

By a Staff Reporter

The cost of damage to early potatoes, blackcurrants, lettuces and strawberries in the weekend hailstorms in southern England could run into millions of pounds, according to the National Farmers' Union.

One nursery near Bognor Regis in West Sussex, suffered an estimated £30,000 worth of damage when hailstones the size of walnuts broke 8,000 panes of glass.

The union said an area of West Sussex along the Chichester Plain was most severely affected by the storm.

Local video pirates the target for new group

By Kenneth Goaling

A new group to fight video pirates who sell their wares in public houses and clubs and trade from door to door is expected to start bringing local prosecutions next month.

Illegal dealers account for 60 per cent of all video films. It is in an attempt to stop their inroads into the legitimate trade that the organization, to be called Impact, has been set up.

The national problem is being dealt with by the Federation Against Copyright Theft (Fact) which yesterday announced raids in the London area yielding 2,200 pirate video cassettes from dealers and duplicators.

Mr Michael Trill, chairman of Impact, who runs a chain of video shops, mainly in Surrey, said: "The federation is going for the big boys - we are after the guy who runs off a few copies, puts them in the boot of his car and then goes from door to door putting them out at £1 a time."

Mr Michael Trill said Impact would not be a vigilante group. "All prosecutions will be through five solicitors we are appointing at the moment. Proof will be obtained by a



Surgeon praises M5 victims' courage

From Our Correspondent, Exeter

A surgeon at the hospital which treated the children injured in the M5 coach crash on Monday, praised their courage yesterday. Dr Peter Bedford, head of the casualty department at the Royal Devon and Exeter hospital, said: "We have had very few tears, no hysterics and there have been a great many delightful smiles. They are a great credit to their parents and their school."

He admitted that some of the more severely injured children would face a rehabilitation battle. "Some of the children will face 12 to 18 months of review and revision as they just let their bodies heal as gently as possible."

The most badly injured girl will be transferred to a plastic surgery unit and the boy will be sent to a Liverpool hospital.

Dr Bedford added that some of the casualties would face lifelong problems with finger movements. One girl who plays a flute will find it difficult to continue because of the nature of her injuries.

Over the next two days three operating theatres will be made available for the original surgeons to review, revise and re-dress the wounds. Seventeen children will be operated on again. By the weekend a handful of youngsters, and two teachers still detained, Mrs Glenys Pownall, aged 45 and Mrs Janet Healey, aged 33, will be allowed home.

Dr Stephen Haseler, principal lecturer in politics at the City of London Polytechnic, accepted substantial undisclosed damages in settlement of a High Court libel action yesterday over an article in the *New Statesman*.

The article, published in February, 1981, linked his name with a geneticist who was alleged to hold views about "Nordic and Aryan superiority". Dr Haseler had sued *Statesman* and Nation Publishing, the magazine's printers, QB Ltd, Mr Bruce Page, who was then editor, and Mr Christopher Hitchens, who wrote the article.

Their counsel, Mr Desmond Browne, told Mr Justice French that they accepted that Dr Haseler had never held racist views, and apologized for the distress and embarrassment he had suffered.

Mr Parkes said Dr Haseler had always abhorred the views attributed to Mr Pearson and there was not a word of any suggestion to the contrary in any of his political or other writings.

The United States space shuttle prototype left Stansted airport, Essex, yesterday on the first leg of its flight back across the Atlantic after displaying in Europe. Thousands watched as the Boeing 747, which is carrying the shuttle, took off.

The two aircraft were to fly over Birmingham, Manchester and Glasgow before leaving British airspace. When the shuttle reached Birmingham, hundreds of people lined the streets to try to catch a glimpse.

Woman found dead at house

The body of a woman was found by police called to a house in Wilstone, Hartfordshire, on Monday, the police said yesterday. A post mortem examination is to be carried out.

The police said a man was being interviewed in connection with the incident. It is believed that the unnamed woman, who was in her early forties, was married.

Bus accident

An Eastern Counties double-deck bus carrying schoolchildren toppled on to its side and fell into a ditch at Somersham, Suffolk, yesterday. The 12 children, two adult passengers and driver were unhurt.

Financial pressures force two peers out of family homes

From Our Correspondent, Exeter

Two neighbouring peers have decided to give up their homes to live in cottages. Lord Devon is to rent out Powderham Castle and live in the grounds beside the River Exe, while Lord Clifford of Chudleigh and his wife are to move to the Channel Islands.

Financial advisers to Lord Clifford, aged 67, warned him that death duties would ruin his family and break up the estate.

The estimated £1.5m could be raised only by selling the 3,000 acre estate at Ugbrooke House, near Exeter, which has been owned by Cliffords since 1560.

Lord Clifford said: "I am heartbroken at the thought of leaving but it is the only solution. I am putting Ugbrooke into a trust for my eldest son, Thomas, and we are moving to a little three-bedroom stone cottage on Guernsey. That way the estate will remain in the family."

When Lord Clifford inherited the estate in 1956 it was in a ruinous state. He has restored the house, bought back many treasures that had been sold off and three years ago opened the house to the public.

In a letter to his 13 tenants Lord Clifford says: "The plan put forward is that the estate is handed over to a trust for my son's family and that we move to the place I consider I have saved and financially I shall be much worse off, so no snide remarks about a tax haven please."

Lord Courtenay, aged 41, son of Lord Devon and owner of the fourteenth century Powderham Castle, home for his father, aged 66, and his mother, aged 75, has decided to offer the castle for rent.

Heavy financial losses were behind Lord Courtenay's decision. Lord Courtenay who runs an agricultural business on the estate, said: "We are looking for

people who like to take on the problems of historic homes. "Even in a good year the castle loses £15,000, despite cutting overheads to the bone. By letting the castle I will not have to sell it or the contents."

"But it costs more than £50,000 a year to run the house and gardens so it is not a suitable property for anyone who is not very wealthy."

Simon Jenkins, who is two years old next month, is expected to become the youngest patient to undergo a bone-marrow transplant, when he receives marrow from his sister, Nicola, with whom he is pictured above.

Simon, of Selby Grove, Hartlepool, Cleveland, had leukaemia diagnosed when he was 15 months old. A bone-marrow transplant will give him a greater chance of survival.

The operation is due to take place at the Royal Marsden Hospital, Surrey, close to Simon's birthday next month.

Mrs Sally Oppenheim, the former consumer affairs minister, has put her Gloucestershire estate on the market with an asking price of about £1.5m.

Mrs Oppenheim, who is campaigning for a fifth term as Conservative MP for Gloucester, bought the Sandhurst estate, near the city, with her late

husband for almost £1m in 1972. Part of the property, a 190-acre farm, was sold in 1979 for £454,000. The remaining 732 acres will be auctioned on July 28 in Gloucester.

Mrs Oppenheim could not be contacted yesterday to comment on the reasons for the sale.



Lord Devon, top, and Lord Clifford

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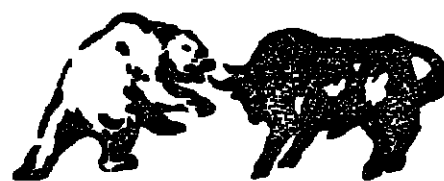
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Porpoise that swam to fame is moved on

A Porpoise was taken into protective custody yesterday for causing traffic jams on a busy road. Later it was taken by road to the North Sea where the South Yorkshire police felt it would be more at home. It was last seen by coastguards at Bridlington, who reported it to be "swimming quite happily out to sea".

The porpoise was first seen after it swam 80 miles inland from the sea at the weekend in the River Don at Doncaster. The police and the RSPCA decided to leave it alone, but the public decided it was a big attraction and thousands of cars, containing families

equipped with binoculars and cameras, poured into the town, creating traffic jams.

Early yesterday the police telephoned Flamingo Land Zoo, near Malton, North Yorkshire, and three experts were soon on their way.

The took with them Gallois of Llanol and an inflatable rubber boat to give the porpoise a comfortable bed after its capture.

Mr Neville Wilby, the zoo curator, hauled the porpoise out of the water into the boat. On reaching the riverbank, the creature was kept cool and comfortable with the Llanol and started his journey

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Fringe parties fight 300 seats in search of new political dawn

By Richard Evans

At first sight, Wally the Wellie, campaigning for subsidised cheese and pickle sandwiches on behalf of the Official Monster Raving Loony Party in Essex, has little in common with Clifford Slapper, the Socialist Party of Great Britain's token general election candidate standing in Islington, South.

But in the world of political opinion polls, the seismic policy gap between "Mr" Wally the Wellie and the other 300-odd fringe candidates standing tomorrow counts for nothing as they all gain automatic entry to an exclusive "party", euphemistically known as Others.

On a more practical level they are united by being electoral failures. The bounds of political speculation do not have to be stretched to realise that none of the minority candidates will be elected to Parliament; virtually all will lose their £150 deposit, and many will fail to pick a vote for every pound lost. So why do they do it?

As in some of the bigger parties, there is an ideological split within the Others. Apart from the Monster Raving Loony Party (swelled by the addition of the Green Chicken Alliance), Freddie's Alternative Medicine Party, the Fancy Dress Party and the Nobody Party, there is a second group that advances "serious" policies and manifestos, and which foresees electoral success, albeit some years away.

Out on its own this time is the Ecology Party, which is fielding 108 candidates. It is probably the most serious group taken seriously by the average voter. The party's main aim is to achieve 5 per cent of the vote on Thursday. That

would put them on a par with the Greens in West Germany who have 27 MPs thanks to proportional representation, as the Ecology Party is quick to point out.

"If the SDP/Liberal Alliance successfully demanded the introduction of PR we could then take off in quite a big way", Mr Colin McGrady, a member of the party's campaign team, says.

"In many ways we are in the same position as the Labour Party was at the end of the last century when faced with the Tory and Liberal stranglehold of Parliament. Suddenly they never looked back."

Ironically, the Revolutionary Communist Party, which is putting up four candidates, has discovered that money can be made out of elections. "You can raise as much money locally as you spend. We made a profit out of running a candidate in the Bournemouth by-election", Mr Pat Roberts says.

Not that cash is the electoral incentive for the RCP. Like all the other "serious" contenders, it is preparing for the new political dawn which, it says, is just round the corner. "We are doing this for the future. We don't think the present electoral system and balance of party forces can sustain things for long. People will look for new alternatives as a result of what is going on."

Also offering a distinctly different choice is the Workers Revolutionary Party, with its 21 candidates. Unlike the rest of the fringe, it does not automatically assume defeat. "We do not go into it expecting candidates not to be elected and we do not go into the campaign expecting our candidates will lose their deposits", Mr Colin Redgrave,

a member of the WRP's central committee, says.

The Communist Party has, in the distant past, tasted electoral victory, but this week the best it can hope for from its 35 nominees is a retained deposit in the Rhonda.

"We conduct fairly consistent political activity. If we did not take part in elections we would not be regarded as a serious political party. I don't think we should consider ourselves as a political party," Mr Gerry Pocock, the party's campaign organizer, says.

"We get quite an encouraging response to our campaign and we increase membership. Most people have not got a clue what our policies are. They have an idea of our image from the media and I think we are a sinister manipulative organization that is controlling CND, and God knows what else."

"Our experience is that when people come into contact with our politics and living communists they get a completely different impression."

At the other end of the political rainbow, the National Front has shrunk its election effort compared to 1979 when 303 candidates stood - and all lost their deposit. This time 60 candidates are espousing the Front's extreme right-wing views.

"We see the whole exercise as building up our organization and membership. We will make a profit out of fighting this election", Mr Michael Salt, the Front's administrative officer, says. "It lets people know we are still very much around."

All the minority parties say they are determined to keep contesting elections. But a £1,000 deposit may finally obliterate the mirage of political glory for the fringe.

Saatchis win the advertisers' vote

By David Hewson

If the scent of election victory is already wafting around Downing Street, it is positively overwhelming in the corridors of Saatchi & Saatchi, the advertising agency contracted to handle the account which aims to return the Conservatives to No 10.

A survey of London advertising agency chiefs revealed this week that, whatever their political leanings, most admired the Saatchis' strident election advertising. "They should be invited to the first post-election cocktail party, even if they do not want to go," one agency chairman said, reflecting the widespread belief that there was some initial reluctance on the part of the Saatchi brothers to take on the account which they handled so successfully for Mrs Thatcher in 1979.

But Saatchis' prizes may be short-lived. The very impact of the Tory campaign is likely to increase the pressure for some form of legal control on the funds used for political advertising. While the law exercises strict regulation of the funds used by individual parliamentary candidates as election expenses, and frequently inflicts an embarrassing punishment on minor and inadvertent offenders, the big guns of the national campaigns are totally unfettered.

Mr Tony Bodhertz, vice-chairman of the KMP agency, one of Labour's advertising advisers in 1979, and today a member of the SDP, said: "I would ban advertising and opinion polls throughout the campaign. It would be the only way to equalize the advantage. There is no institutional way in which each party can be given equal amounts to spend on its own campaign. The present rules are grossly unfair."

All the major parties refuse to say how much they spend on media campaigns. Unofficial estimates suggest that the Conservatives' total budget of £20m includes at least £2m for advertising, while nearly half of Labour's £2m budget will go the same way. The Alliance, affected by cash difficulties which have not yet been fully detailed, has virtually abandoned conventional media for posters on the sides of vans.

Mr Nick Grant, Labour's director of publicity, said: "I do not think advertising wins or loses elections. But some of our advertising is aimed at uncertain Labour voters."

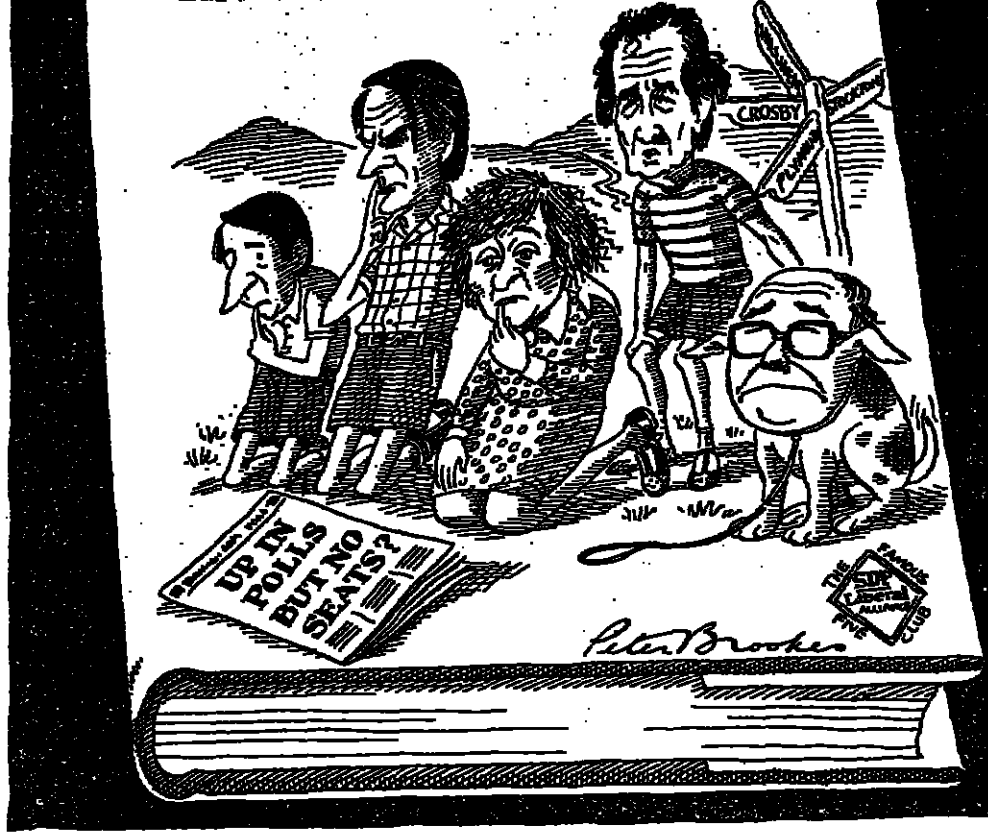
Mr Winston Fletcher, chairman of the Ted Bates agency, said: "All the research evidence suggests that advertising is a very peripheral influence, affecting 1 or 2 per cent of voters. It is primarily there to rally the troops rather than to make converts."

The chief dissenter is Mr Tim Delaney, creative partner of Leagas Delaney, and another former Labour supporter now floating in the direction of the SDP.

"All the campaigns have been disappointing. The SDP posters were found to be at best confusing and at worst offensive. The Labour campaign is a reflection of what the party wants to say rather than what the public wants to hear. It is about pessimism and gloom."

Mr John Mallows, media director of Young & Rubicam, was more to the point. "The only campaign I have really been aware of is the Conservative Party campaign, which I regard as superb. The copy is hard-hitting and I like the trenchant way it has spelt out a number of issues which seems to reflect the Thatcherite approach."

The Enid Blight FAMOUS FIVE HAVE A MYSTERY TO SOLVE



Regional survey

Disenchantment favours Tories

By Arthur Osman

The Labour Party's failure to convince the 16.4 per cent unemployed of the West Midlands that they have solutions to the region's most crucial issue will probably cost them dearly tomorrow.

Local opinion polls have suggested that up to 13 Labour seats may be lost and despite three visits to the area by Mr Michael Foot and other members of the Shadow Cabinet, there has been little to stem the tide and bolster support.

The failure has been lamentable and the predicted role of the region as one of the election's main cockpits has not materialized. The forecast vote is not dividing along the "two nation" line of employed and unemployed as was predicted.

There are a few worse examples in Britain, of the extreme effects of the economic deterioration in a once proud and prosperous area.

Labour has failed to provide sufficient answers for its regeneration with a campaign of remarkable sterility and lack of credibility. In particular they have failed to convince the electorate that they have viable plans to raise the vast sums of money necessary to foot the bill to create more jobs.

A significant, if as yet little

regarded fact that could have made its mark was Mrs Margaret Thatcher's appointment of Mr John Butcher from Coventry, South-west, as minister with special responsibilities for the region.

He took up the post only days before the election was announced but it was an important signpost of the Government's intent to reverse the slide to oblivion. Mr Butcher can expect that his appointment will merit an increased personal vote on his present 5,654 majority.

The electorate, clearly more sophisticated than Labour would allow, seems to have spotted the holes in the manifesto and has drifted away in large numbers.

One of the most illuminating holes of all was in Birmingham, Yardley which is said to be one of the two most working class Conservative seats in Britain. Asked which party would be best at reducing local unemployment, Labour and Conservative tied at 34 per cent each.

That Jeffery Barr might lose Mr Jeffrey Rooker would be sad, but assiduous attention to constituency and other matters such as he and others have shown are unlikely to account

for much in the hours ahead.

The region's only ethnic candidates are both fighting for the Conservatives in Birmingham. However, Mrs Pramilla Le Hunte at Ladywood and Mr Paul Nischal at Small Heath, both Asian, seem unlikely to get elected in the projected landslide. But it is known that Mrs Le Hunte's chances, particularly in persuading many entrepreneurial Asians to her side, have led some Conservative officials to stake modest amounts with their bookmakers on a surprise win.

The Alliance is confident that the movement to them in the poll presages substantial achievements with support generally holding at about 13 per cent. Their best prospect is at Hereford.

Having canvassed 75 per cent of the constituency, Liberals say Labour support has fallen to about 6 per cent. The Alliance also has hopes at Wyre Forest, Shrewsbury and at Atcham, Mid-Shropshire, Ludlow, Nuneaton and The Wrekin.

One Liberal official said: "Very few places south of Stoke-on-Trent are now safe for Labour with their failure to provide real solutions to the unemployed's most pressing problem."

THE ISSUES TRANSPORT

Deep rift on social priorities

By Michael Baily

Transport Editor

Public transport has been a political football for years and remains an issue on which Conservative and Labour are deeply divided.

Labour sees public transport as a "major social priority" to which people have a right, even at the cost of high subsidies to keep socially necessary buses and railways going. Labour also espouses an "integrated transport system" to eliminate unnecessary competition and duplication.

The party's manifesto promises a national transport authority to secure this integration; the "proper support" from local authorities to see that public transport is adequate; improvements in British Rail including more electrification and greater priority for rail freight; and nationwide off-peak half-price fares for pensioners.

The Conservatives, apparently doubtful that transport is a social priority in the first place, believe that competition and the market place will, on the whole, be the best means of providing the most effective services at the least cost to taxpayers and ratepayers. Having already "privatized" ports, many railway hotels, and the state-owned lorries and warehouses of the National Freight Corporation, they propose to follow up by selling off British Airways and parts of the National Bus Company and the British Airports Authority.

The extreme positions taken by Labour and Conservatives leave plenty of room for the Alliance to fit snugly in between. The Alliance manifesto promises better transport planning and investment "linked with modernized operating practices" and rejects "negative" approaches to the future of rail transport. But that, so far as the Alliance document is concerned, is as far as it goes.

THE ISSUES PENSIONS

By Laura Bourke

Pensions, an emotive issue, feature with varying degrees of emphasis in the main parties' manifestos. But the focus has shifted from state benefits to the inequities of occupational pension schemes and in particular the treatment of job-changers.

Labour makes a firm commitment to reform, proposing via a Pension Schemes Act greater member participation and more protection for early leavers.

Conservative policy on occupational pensions is to persuade the pension industry to introduce its own reforms, though new legislation is not ruled out. The manifesto restricts commitments to a better deal for early leavers.

The SDP/Liberal Alliance concentrates on state benefits, promising an extra £5.50 a week for a single pensioner and £10 for married couples, paid for by a gradual phasing out of married man's tax allowance and by not indexing fully personal tax allowances. There is also a commitment to a bi-annual pension review.

The Conservatives make no specific commitment to improve state pensions but promise to continue protecting against inflation.

Labour initially would update state pensions in November by the full amount necessary to take account of inflation and increase pensions "as soon as practicable".

Tomorrow: State industries

Paisley band hits the road

From Richard Ford, Belfast

For the third time that evening the voice called for quiet while the Loyalist band struck up and the unmistakable sound of the "big man" led everyone in God Save the Queen.

The tune was destined to be sung with unshamed fervour at every stop on a gruelling schedule of canvassing by the Rev. Ian Paisley on a damp night in his North Antrim constituency. Around him the uniformed Royal Ulster Constabulary men were at attention together with the armed, plain clothes officers who shadow his every move.

A small group of working class men and women sang with intensity, cars on the main road halted and only a few teenage

youths shuffled in apparent embarrassment at the display of patriotism.

But Mr Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, feels no such embarrassment, whether it is loudly singing the National Anthem to a tiny crowd or holding up the traffic while he marches at the head of the John Calvin Memorial Band before crowds which are small compared with those he used to attract.

In the small villages of the Bannside, where he began his political career, Ulster's loyalty is proclaimed for all to see. The kerbstones are painted red, white and blue and the red hand of Ulster is often painted on the road.

Mr Paisley enjoys his canvass-

ing as he marches at the head of a band. He greets constituents with a wave and a shake of his rolled umbrella.

Are they drawn by the band or to catch a glimpse of the man who loudly proclaims himself leader of Ulster's Protestants?

It is probably a bit of both, but Mr Paisley is an old worker who knows that few Ulstermen can resist a band. The smallest estate is never missed, though in the obvious middle-class areas he restricts himself to driving in a car urging people to support him from a loudspeaker. But working class areas that are his natural constituency are treated to a thunderous message. They are praised for their support and fidelity.

The core of his message is aimed at Pearce McMahon, the Provisional Sinn Féin candidate whom he castigates as the "Ballymoney bomber". His voice rising, Mr Paisley shouts: "Now, in the heartland of loyal County Antrim, this IRA frontman is standing. I want you to help me to devastate him at this election."

The canvass finishes with a reminder to everyone to vote for him as the man who is for God and Ulster prepared to defend the faith and freedom of "our beloved province."

Then he is off, a cavalcade of cars, many bearing the words "Jesus saves" on their windscreen, travelling to the next village.

It is a punishing pace, but he is recognised as a formidable campaigner who has built a powerful base which should secure him another five years at Westminster on Thursday.



Old trooper: Mr Paisley out canvassing.

CONSTITUENCY PROFILE Bradford W

SDP man tests personal vote

CANDIDATES

E. Lyons (SDP/All)

S. Day (C)

M. Madden (Lab)

Mrs B. Staughton (WRP)

Calculating the strength of a personal vote is causing Mr Edward Lyons some agony at the moment. The sitting member for Bradford West claims to have achieved the biggest swing to Labour of any MP in England and Wales at the last general election, but two years ago he left Labour for the Social Democrats.

June 9 will tell him how much his impressive build-up of the Labour vote in the city was due to his personal account, how many former Labour or Tory supporters he has been able to persuade to the SDP view and how much the swing to Labour was caused by the simple fact that the social shape of the constituency had changed and more Labour voters had moved there.

The local election results were not promising for Mr Lyons. The SDP came third, although he insists that result will not automatically be repeated in a general election when people were more awake to the issues. "I understand the difficulties here and Bradford cannot afford to lose any more jobs. In the Labour areas there is a tremendous bitterness against Mrs Thatcher. The textile mills have suffered an

Profile of Bradford West

1981 % Own Occ 61.2

1981 % Loc Auth 27.2

1981 % Black/Asian 2.8

1981 % Mid cl 41.9

1981 % Prof man 12.4

1982 electorate 71,347

1979 % SDP/All 10.1

1979 % Lab 55.1

1979 % WRP 1.7

1979 % C 32.4

1979 % Other 1.5

1979 % Non-manual workers 41.9

1979 % Professional, higher managers, and independent farmers, etc 18.5

1979 % Unemployed 10.1

1979 % In new housing 1.5

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CONSTITUENCY PROFILE Dulwich

Taverne eclipsed by Tories

CANDIDATES

G. Bowden (C)

R. Baker (Eco)

Miss C. Hoey (Lab)

D. Taverne (SDP/All)

R. W. Vero (Loony Socy)

Mr Dick Taverne, the former minister, Labour rebel, star of television and radio and seasoned election campaigner, thinks he has a good chance of winning highly marginal Dulwich for the SDP. His opponents say he has no chance.

When he fought last year's by-election in neighbouring Peckham, he came second to an apparent rift with the Dulwich Liberals, who object to him being foisted upon them. Mr Taverne is by far the most experienced of the three candidates and should be able to lead significantly on the 4,759 Liberal voters cast in 1979.

This south London seat, the more prosperous of the two Southwark constituencies, went to Mr Sanjiv Kumar, the Labour Attorney General, in 1964, but his comfortable majority was whittled away to a mere 122 when he fought Mr John Morley, the Conservative Miss World man, in 1979.

Mr Taverne, the hero of Lincoln in 1973, believes that Labour cannot win this time because traditional Labour supporters are disillusioned by the leadership and its stance on

Profile of Dulwich

1981 % Own Occ 38.0

1981 % Loc Auth 41.8

1981 % Black/Asian 1.6

1981 % Mid cl 56.7

1981 % Prof man 11.1

1982 electorate 57,273

1979 % SDP/All 10.1

1979 % Lab 55.1

1979 % WRP 1.7

1979 % C 32.4

1979 % Other 1.5

1979 % Non-manual workers 41.9

1979 % Professional, higher managers, and independent farmers, etc 18.5

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Profile of Dulwich

Arafat flies to Delhi to seek non-aligned movement's backing

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Mr Yasser Arafat, the beleaguered chairman of the Palesine Liberation Organization arrived here yesterday for a swift series of meetings with Mrs Indira Gandhi and her advisers.

The visit bore every sign of having been hastily arranged. Late on Monday evening, the Indian Foreign Ministry declared they did not know whether he was coming or not, and when he arrived from Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, early in the morning he was met by the Prime Minister and Mr P. V. Narasimha Reddy, the External Affairs Minister. But there was no turn out of diplomats, such as marked his last visit here last summer, and no ceremonies.

Observers speculated that Mr Arafat was visiting those leaders who have been close to him in order to secure their continued support, and to invite their help in reinforcing his position. In particular, he is said to be feeling the lack of a public statement of support from the Soviet Union.

Mr Arafat, who was given a room in the Presidential Palace, held two hours of talks with Mrs Gandhi, and then had lunch with her.

According to the Foreign Minister, he told Mrs Gandhi that reports of growing dissension within the PLO were "grossly exaggerated" and that the situation was under control. In return, Mrs Gandhi was said to have assured him of the continued and complete support of the non-aligned movement for the Palestinian cause.

After his day in Delhi, Mr Arafat flew to Aden. At the airport he referred to the internal troubles of the PLO and declared that it was not the first time that Colonel Gaddafi of Libya had tried to interfere in the organization.

Sidon shopkeepers held

Sidon, Lebanon (reuter) - Israeli forces disrupted road and sea transport in Sidon yesterday and detained shopkeepers who had protested on Monday against the Israeli invasion a year ago.

The road disruptions were for security checks, apparently to prevent guerrilla attacks, but two small cargo vessels were seen being towed from the harbour by Israeli gunboats.

One of the ships had just begun unloading cement. Local fishermen said that the Israelis were trying to force southern Lebanon to import only Israeli goods.

Residents said, that the Israelis appeared recently to be increasing harassment.

Oradour massacre Nazi is given life

Berlin (Reuter & AP) - An

East German judge yesterday jailed for life Heinz Barth, aged 62, a former Nazi officer convicted of war crimes in France and Czechoslovakia. The court dismissed a defence plea for leniency on the ground that Barth was under orders.

"He not only carried out orders and murdered people who had nothing to do with the war, but did so with great commitment, ensuring that his subordinates also fulfilled them precisely," Judge Heinz Hingst said.

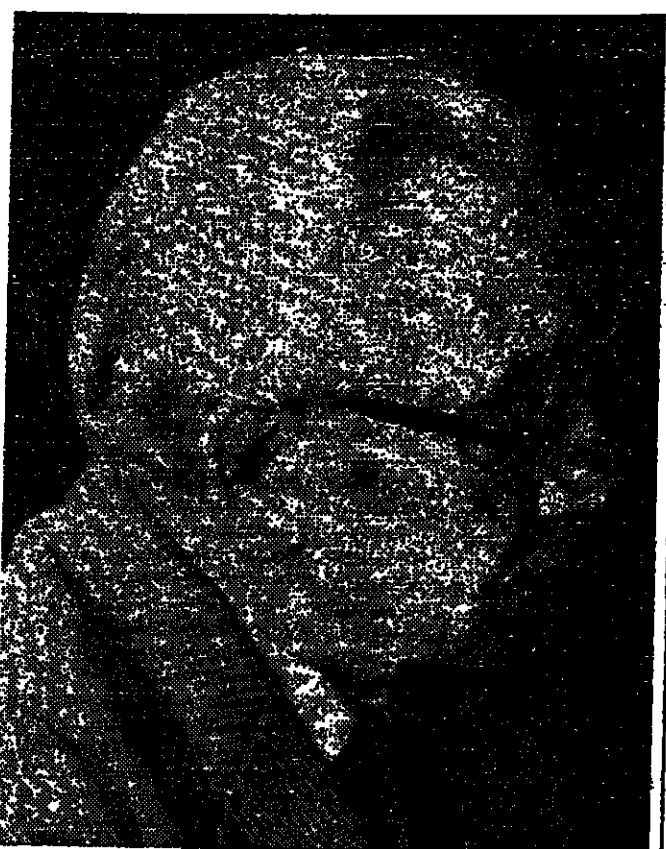
Barth sat quietly at the side of the court during the session, speaking only to tell the judge he had understood his right to appeal within seven days. The judge said Barth was a convinced Nazi who "unscrupulously carried out every order to kill".

In Czechoslovakia in June and July, 1942, he had volunteered for firing squads and shot or stood guard as others shot partisans in a wave of killings in reprisal for the capture of Nazi Major Reinhard Heydrich, the judge said.

On June 10, 1944, he was a member of a company that sealed off the French village of Oradour-sur-Gane and systematically wiped out most of the population, killing 642 people.

Barth's lawyer, Herr Friedrich Wolff, had pleaded in mitigation that Barth had, in part, acted under orders and as a young man was "caught up in the guilt of his people". The judge said if the fact that Barth, a married man with two sons, had led an exemplary life in East Germany since 1946 it did not outweigh the seriousness of the crimes and did not demand leniency.

Calling him a "murderous



'Murderous rifleman': Heinz Barth listens to the judge.

rifleman" the judge went on: "The crimes of the accused are extremely serious. They are marked by an unscrupulous disregard for life and the dignity of man."

Barth could have been sentenced to death but there have been no known executions in East Germany in recent years.

Barth was sentenced to death in his absence by a tribunal in Bordeaux, France, in 1953.

Andropov's offer as Start resumes

Moscow meets objections on nuclear-free Baltic

Moscow (NYT) - Mr Yuri Andropov, renewing a long-standing Soviet proposal for a nuclear free zone in northern Europe, says that the idea could be extended to the Baltic Sea.

The Soviet leader, speaking at a dinner for Mr Mauno Koivisto, the visiting Finnish President, said the Soviet Union was ready to discuss with other nations the question of giving nuclear-free status to the Baltic.

Mr Andropov spoke after signing an agreement extending for 20 years the treaty of friendship and cooperation that has governed relations between Finland and the Soviet Union since 1948.

The treaty has been the basis of the generally cooperative and uncritical stance that Finland has adopted. The Soviet proposal for a nuclear-free zone for the Nordic countries is at least 25 years old, but has failed to attract the endorsement of Denmark, Norway and Sweden, at whom it is principally aimed.

In his speech, Mr Andropov attempted to meet two of the objections put forward by opponents. One has been that the Soviet formulation does not include the Baltic, which is used by Soviet vessels with nuclear warheads.

Another is the absence in the original proposal of any provisions for removing nuclear weapons from land areas of the Soviet Union near the Nordic countries.

That problem has been dealt with in recent years by saying that the Soviet Union is ready to consider measures concerning the nuclear status of its nearby territory. Mr Andropov repeated that undertaking on Monday.

Sopran months ago, a military spokesman, Colonel-General Nikolai Chernov, said that, if the Baltic was declared a nuclear-free zone, the Soviet Navy would withdraw six missile-carrying submarines that are based there.

Western experts identified the submarines in question as older vessels, each carrying three missiles, that were being phased out of service. They said that modern missile-carrying submarines were based at Severodvinsk on the White Sea and at Polyarny, near Murmansk, on the Kola Peninsula, near Norway and Sweden.

● BRUSSELS: Mr Andropov's call is meaningless because the area is within easy reach of Soviet missiles, Nato sources claimed yesterday, according to Reuter.

The Soviets have weapons capable of reaching targets 3,000 miles away, so a nuclear-free zone in the Baltic would be meaningless," the sources said.

● COPENHAGEN: Mr Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, the Danish Foreign Minister, said yesterday that Mr Andropov's proposal was interesting but needed further elaboration, AP reports.

US change of tack expected at Geneva

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Straight from last-minute consultations at the White House, General Edward Rowney, United States delegate to the Start (Strategic weapons) negotiations with the Soviet Union, was arriving in Geneva this morning with his delegation. The first meeting in the new round is expected to take place during the afternoon.

The negotiations began in June last year. The Soviet delegation returned to Geneva on Monday without its leader, Mr Victor Karpov. His deputy, Mr Aleksei Oboukhov, said only that he was "not well".

In a prepared statement, Mr Oboukhov said that the Soviet Union would continue the talks "in an active and constructive spirit". They wanted "deep reductions of strategic arms in their entirety in the interests of lowering the level of military confrontation and diminishing the risk of nuclear war".

In the parallel negotiations on tactical (medium range) missiles in Geneva the going is said to be heavy. There was only one formal meeting last week, instead of the usual two.

● WASHINGTON: President Reagan consulted his senior national security advisers on a proposal for demonstrating more United States flexibility in negotiations, Mohsin Ali writes. The White House spokesman said that the President would soon announce decisions on a new position based on a recommendation that warheads, not missiles, be counted in proposed cuts in United States and Soviet nuclear arsenals.

The United States position would incorporate some of the recommendations of the President's commission on strategic forces, chaired by General Brent Scowcroft. The commission's recent report called for the deployment in the United States of the MX missile and "vigorous pursuit" of negotiated arms control.

The report argued that emphasis should be placed on verifiable reductions of warheads rather than missiles because this would lead to deeper and more genuine cuts. At the start of negotiations last July the United States proposed limiting each side to 850 land- and sea-based ballistic missiles, and reducing the number of long-range nuclear warheads by about one-third to 5,000 each.

The Soviet Union has proposed a limit of 1,800 missiles and bombers for each side. The President also has to decide on the controversial question of whether the United States should propose a limitation on the "throw weight" of strategic missiles. American experts estimate that the Soviet missile force has a throw weight of 5.6m kilograms compared to 1.8m kilograms for the United States.

20-year jail terms in Mafia trial

Palermo (Reuter) - An Italian government crackdown against organized crime took a step forward on Monday night when a Palermo court sentenced alleged Mafia leaders to prison terms of up to 20 years on drugs, arms and organized crime charges.

Tommaso Iozzillo, Rosario and Giuseppe Gambino, Emanuele Adamita and Filippo Ragusa were sentenced to 20 years. Rosario Spatola, chief defendant in the trial of 75 alleged members of the Mafia's Spatola, Iozzillo and Gambino "families" was sentenced to 13 years in prison and an 80m lire (just over £33,000) fine.

Altogether 59 defendants were found guilty in the trial, the first under anti-mafia laws passed by Parliament last year after the murders of a prominent Communist politician and of the General Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa, the Palermo police chief.

The prosecution accused the defendants of belonging to "new Mafia" gangs controlling Sicilian building rackets.

The indictment outlined a web of financial dealings between Palermo's booming construction industry, New York underworld bosses and outwardly respectable Milan businessmen.

Junta eases British assets ban

Buenos Aires (Reuter) - Argentina yesterday lifted a ban on the sale or transfer of British assets in the country, introduced during the Falklands conflict.

A new law allows the commission overseeing British assets to suspend the ban in relation to individuals, companies or entities. It also empowers the Government to lift the ban in generalized terms "taking into account the general interest and equal treatment given to the Argentine Republic". In both cases, the ban could be reimposed.

The ban applies to all property belonging to the United Kingdom, to British citizens who are not permanent residents in Argentina, and to other nationals residing in Britain.

Publication of the law, came into effect yesterday, coincided with fresh negotiations in New York between Argentine officials and a committee of creditor banks. Sources said the banks wanted the ban lifted before granting Argentina a \$1.5 billion (£1 billion) loan to help service its \$38.7 billion foreign debt.

The leaders of Argentina's main political parties yesterday called for a peace treaty with Chile over the Beagle Channel dispute.

Whitehall denies election delayed Argentine's visa

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

The man who wants to take relatives of Argentine war dead to the Falklands, found even the British Isles still barred to him last night.

But a report that Señor Osvaldo Destefanis's application for a visa would not be granted until after tomorrow's election, was being carefully denied by Whitehall officials. "It is still being considered, that's all," he said.

Señor Destefanis's earlier attempt to organize a pilgrimage to the Falklands collapsed when the International Committee of the Red Cross refused to become involved.

In the end, the best he could arrange was a funeral service at sea, his vessel under instructions from Buenos Aires not to confront British warships protecting the 150-miles exclusion zone around the islands.

Now he is in Paris awaiting a visa.

● PARIS: Señor Destefanis arrived to The Times in Paris yesterday: "The British Government will not give me a visa until after the election", Diana Geddes writes.

When he had first applied for his visa at the British Embassy in Buenos Aires on May 30, he had been told it would take only five days. He said: "I don't see why there is now this delay. I feel really bad. They seem to be afraid of letting me into Britain, but I cannot do any harm to anyone."

"I just feel that it is very important for me to go to England to negotiate this trip personally. I can give the Government proof that our visit is purely humanitarian and not for the purposes of propaganda."

The British Embassy in Paris said that it had told Señor Destefanis that he was unlikely to get his visa next week, though it could not be certain when it would come through. There had been no specific mention of the British election it insisted.

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Air force chiefs suspected each other, Zimbabwe trial told

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

A Zimbabwe Air Force board of inquiry comprising some of the men now on trial for allegedly helping to sabotage aircraft asked police to arrest one of the men being tried with them and recommended that another be court-martialled, the High Court was told here yesterday. The man recommended for court-martial was a wing commander, also on trial, who might have been involved in the sabotage plot.

Information given to the board, which was set up immediately after the sabotage, was said to have prejudiced in varying degrees three of the officers now on trial.

Details of the inquiry, which the state maintains was part of a plot by the accused to divert attention from their alleged guilt, emerged for the first time during yesterday's proceedings before Mr Justice Dumbutshena. The board was chaired by Air Commodore Philip Pile and included Wing Commander Peter Briscoe, the second and third accused of the six officers charged with aiding the sabotage of 13 ZAF aircraft last July 25.

During Wing Commander Briscoe's evidence yesterday it was disclosed that the board had asked police to arrest Air Lieutenant Neville Weir, the sixth accused and had decided to recommend that Air Lieutenant Barrington Lloyd, the fifth accused, who had responsibility for security at the Thornhill air base, be court-martialled. No reasons were given during yesterday's proceedings for these decisions.

Wing Commander Briscoe said that during two sessions before the board, Air Lieutenant Lloyd had been asked to name any individuals whom he suspected might have been involved. He had named Wing Commander John Cox, the fourth accused who, he said, was dishonest, and a black officer who gave evidence for the state at the start of the trial.

Cross-examined by Mr Honor Mkhushi, for the state, Wing Commander Briscoe denied the board tried to divert attention from the "real culprits". The board suspected there had been collusion by staff with an inside knowledge of Thornhill and had been wholly inadequate.

These findings had been made in a preliminary report, the only document produced by the board before he and Air Commodore Pile were themselves arrested, and all information had been passed to police.

● Bail skipped: Mr Chido Muzorewa, aged 19, son of Bishop Abel Muzorewa, former head of the transitional Zimbabwe-Rhodesia government, has apparently fled to the United States to avoid charges of illegal arms possession, AFP reports. According to his lawyer, Mr Muzorewa skipped his Z\$300 (about £190) bail and left for the US, of which he is a citizen by birth.

Bishop Muzorewa apparently did not know of his son's departure and has not commented.

Anger and grief for ANC three

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The families of the three African National Congress (ANC) guerrillas who are to be hanged tomorrow have reacted with anger as well as grief to the refusal of the South African President to grant a reprieve.

Mr Daniel Mokoagane, whose son, Simon, is one of the three, said: "As far as I am concerned my son and the two others did not act like ordinary criminals and it would be unfair to hang them."

Mrs Sarah Mosololi, the mother of Mr Jerry Mosololi, another of the condemned men, declared: "Go well my son, I love you. I am proud of you because you're to die for your people. We'll meet where you're going. You must know the struggle will not end even after your death."

Mrs Mosololi's husband, Isaac, and Mr Frans Motang, father of Mr Marcus Motang, the third of the condemned, have both applied to be allowed to bury their sons. "He will not be buried by prison warders. He loved and died for us. Therefore he deserves a decent burial", Mr Mosololi said.

The attitude of the families undoubtedly reflects the view of many blacks, who see the ANC guerrillas as soldiers and freedom fighters. Outside South Africa there is considerable support for the argument that captured ANC insurgents should be granted prisoner-of-war status.

About a dozen ANC guerrillas have been sentenced to death since the upsurge of guerrilla activity caused by unrest in black townships in 1976-77. So far, however, only one has been executed. He was Mr Solomon Mahlangu, who was hanged in April, 1979, after being convicted of murder during a gun attack on a Johannesburg warehouse.

Hawke in no hurry for an Australian republic

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Australia might opt to become a Commonwealth republic sometime in the future, but not yet, Mr Bob Hawke, the country's new Labour Prime Minister, said yesterday. There were many, many higher priorities on his agenda, he told a press conference in London.

Speaking after tea with the Prince and Princess of Wales, and just before leaving for lunch with the Queen, he also smartly spiked a newspaper claim that he despised the Royal Family.

"Since I have had the opportunity to get to know Her Majesty, Prince Philip, Prince Charles, I have developed a high personal regard for all of them. They have what must be one of the most difficult jobs in the world and they discharge their duties magnificently", he said.

There is a growing rumour in his own party over reports that he is moving towards *de facto* recognition of Indonesian rule over East Timor, contrary to Labour policy which calls for self-determination by the local people. But he refused yesterday to

disclose details of his recent conversation with President Suharto in Jakarta, promising only a debate on the issue on his return, both inside and outside the parliamentary party.

The result of that debate would determine which way Australia voted at the United Nations.

He was more forthcoming on other matters including his doubts over the continuing usefulness of Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meetings, the next of which is due to be held in Papua New Guinea next year.

He raised this at discussions later yesterday with Mr Shridath Ramphal, Commonwealth Secretary-General.

Mr Hawke later attended the opening by the Queen Mother of London University's new Australian Study Centre and watched some cricket at the Oval, where a taking place contest was taking place between Australia and New Zealand. But official government-to-government talks have had to be scrapped in Britain because of tomorrow's election



Royal funeral: Members of Belgian and foreign Royal families attending the funeral of Prince Charles, Count of Flanders and uncle of King Baudouin at the church of Saint Joacob on Goudenbergh in Brussels yesterday. Prince Charles died last Wednesday, aged 79.

Malawi gives Chirwas time to appeal for clemency

Harare (Reuters) - Mr Orton Chirwa, the Malawi Opposition leader, and his wife, Vera, condemned to death for treason, are not due to be executed this week and, in fact, face an appeal process that could take considerable time, the Malawi High Commission said yesterday.

Referring to reports outside Malawi that the Chirwas would be executed tomorrow, a spokesman said: "Their appeal has yet to be heard and even if their appeal in the National Traditional Court fails they can appeal to the President for clemency. No date has yet been set for the first appeal. This whole procedure could take a lot of time."

Mr Chirwa, aged 64, a former Justice Minister, and his wife, aged 50, who is also a lawyer, were sentenced last month. They were accused of plotting to overthrow the Government and to assassinate Dr Hastings Kamuzu Banda, the Life President, Ministers and officials. They denied the charges.

The sentence has attracted international attention, with Dr Banda receiving appeals for clemency from various world figures and organizations. The latest to add a voice to pleas for mercy is President Shagari of Nigeria, who said on Monday that he was acting on humanitarian grounds.

Speculation about Malawi's politics has been rife recently among exiles and sympathizers in neighbouring states, fuelled by an impending general election in Malawi at the end of this month.

One report said Dr Banda, who is at least 77, planned to take a sabbatical leave from the leadership he has occupied since independence in 1964.

igniting an internal power struggle. But the High Commission spokesman here said the President had said nothing about taking a sabbatical.

Although Malawi is a one-party state firmly ruled by Dr Banda's Malawi Congress Party, at past polls ministers and MPs have lost their jobs, making the pre-election weeks a time of great uncertainty.

Political circles were shocked last month, when it was announced that four top party members had been killed in a car crash.

● NAIROBI: The African Bar Association has joined the appeal to Dr Banda to pardon the Chirwas. In a letter, the association's Kenyan chairman Mr Lee Muthoga, urged Dr Banda to show mercy towards the Chirwas, AFP reports.

● LUSAKA: The "Save Malawi Committee", an exile opposition movement, complained yesterday to the Organization of African Unity conference in Ethiopia about the "ruthless suppression of human rights in Malawi", AFP reports.

The Lion of Kashmir's son in poll triumph

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

The bitterly contested Jammu and Kashmir state election ended in a triumphal victory for Dr Farooq Abdullah, the son of the Lion of Kashmir, he has won his first big victory since he was installed as Chief Minister by his Father, Shaikh Abdullah, last year, and is now assured of retaining power even though the full results will not be known until the end of the week.

The election was not without comfort for Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, whose party did well in Jammu, virtually eliminating the minor groups. But her party, Congress (I), did not do as well as it expected to in the largely Muslim Kashmir valley, gaining only one seat, plus one or two held by Congress-supported independents.

The election has clearly shown that by concentrating on communal issues, both leaders have dangerously polarized opinion in the state. The Muslims have voted for a Muslim party, Dr Abdullah's National Conference, and the Hindus have voted for Congress (I).

Seven people died in the course of the campaign and over 1,000 were hurt. At an election eve meeting alone several hundred people were hurt by stone-throwing political rivals. The meeting was addressed by Mrs Gandhi.

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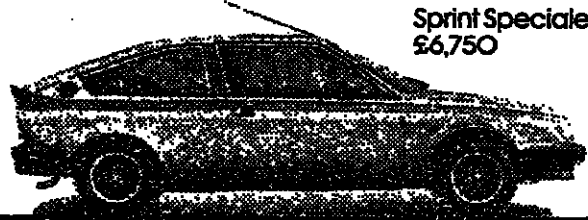
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Alfasud Ti Range from £5,930



Sprint 1-5 £6,540



Sprint Speciale £6,750

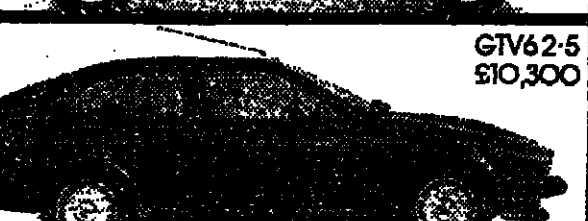
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Nicaragua alleges US diplomat tried to poison minister

Managua (Reuters) - US-Nicaraguan relations have taken a further turn for the worse with the expulsion of three American diplomats accused of anti-state plots, including a scheme to kill the foreign minister with a poisoned bottle of his favourite French wine.

The three were the first US diplomats to be ordered out of Nicaragua since the revolutionaries ousted the US-backed dictator Anastasio Somoza in 1979.

Miss Linda Pfeifel, Political Counsellor, Mr David Greig, First Secretary, and Miss Ermila Loreta Rodriguez, Second Secretary, left Managua on Monday night, some 21 hours after Mr Anthony Quainton, the Ambassador, received a diplomatic note saying the three had been involved in activities against the government.

Earlier, Señor Lenin Cerna, the security chief, told a press conference: "A US Central Intelligence Agency network aiming to assassinate Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto with a bottle of poisoned wine has been smashed."

Holding up a bottle he alleged contained wine laced with the deadly poison thallium, he said Miss Rodriguez had tried to persuade a Foreign Ministry official to pass the brew to Father d'Escoto, who is a

Catholic priest. The wine, produced by Benedictine monks, was his favourite, he added.

Señor Cerna described Greig as the Managua station chief of the CIA and said all three diplomats had acted under orders from CIA headquarters.

Bidding farewell to his colleagues at Cesar Sandino airport, Mr Quainton said their expulsion was a "serious step contributing to a severe degree of tension in bilateral relations".

Asked whether Washington would suspend relations over the incident, he replied: "It would be fairly premature to talk about breaking relations, but obviously the events of the past 24 hours have not contributed to an improvement in relations." He said the charges were preposterous.

Listing details of the diplomats alleged activities, Señor Cerna said Miss Rodriguez had been involved in the poisoned wine plot, Mr Greig had plotted to jam local radio stations with anti-government propaganda, and Miss Pfeifel had had contacts with opposition figures.

Señor Cerna displayed Miss Rodriguez's alleged spy equipment, ranging from codebooks to notepaper, he said, could be instantly turned into chewing gum.



Warrior's rest: A Salvadoran soldier after a clash with guerrillas at Tenancingo.

Change in Salvador strategy promised

San Salvador (AP) - General Carlos Eugenio Casanova, the Defence Minister, announced yesterday that new military action would be taken against left-wing guerrillas. He gave no details about the strategy, but said the plan "will require the maximum sacrifice from our families".

General Vides Casanova said he had visited military posts around the country reminding troops to "respect human rights and stay away from political matters".

Telecommunications officials were trying yesterday to find parts to repair a key microwave relay antenna that was extensively damaged when guerrillas dynamited it at dawn on Sunday.

The attack at El Pacayal, 80 miles east of San Salvador, sharply reduced telephone, telegraph, and direct-line communications.

● WASHINGTON: Mr Thomas Enders, removed recently as Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, was yesterday formally named by President Reagan as US Ambassador to Spain.

Close fight as Canadian Tories pick new leader

From John Best, Ottawa

Canada's Progressive Conservative Party, official opposition in the House of Commons, will finally get a leader next weekend after effectively being without one for four and a half months. The man selected could well be the next Prime Minister.

A seemingly interminable campaign for the leadership will end some time on Saturday afternoon at Ottawa's Civic Centre when 3,000 delegates from across Canada's make their choice from among eight candidates.

Of the contenders, only three, or at the outside four, are strong enough to have a credible chance of winning. They include Mr Joe Clark, a former Prime Minister, who resigned the leadership after failing to obtain what he considered an adequate vote of confidence at a party convention in Winnipeg in late January.

Now Mr Clark, who was 44 on Sunday, is campaigning furiously to get his old job back. He and a close contemporary, Mr Brian Mulroney, a Quebec industrialist who turned 44 in March, are generally considered the front-runners.

But a third candidate, Mr John Crosbie, aged 52, who was Finance Minister in the short-lived Clark government of 1979-80, has been coming on strong in recent weeks and could emerge as a formidable threat.

The other candidate who still has a chance of winning, albeit a slim one, is Mr David Crombie, aged 46, the diminutive former mayor of Toronto.

All the top candidates except Mr Mulroney, who has never run for Parliament although he has been an active Conservative since student days, are MPs. Mr Crosbie represents a Newfoundland riding and Mr Clark an Alberta riding.

The campaign, which has already been under way more than three months - since February 28, when Mr Crombie declared his candidacy, thereby opening the floodgates and squelching Mr Clark's transitory hopes of regaining the leadership by default, has generally been a low-key affair.

At one point there were a dozen candidates, but one dropped out and three others failed to meet a \$5,000 (\$2,463) deposit.

The overriding issue, although not a particularly well articulated one, is ideological and concerns the focus of the soul of the Conservative Party. There is a strong conservative current running in Canadian politics just now, similar to trends manifested in Britain, the US and other Western countries in recent years.

It could be that and hurt Mr Clark, who is widely regarded as

being middle-of-the-road or slightly left of centre: too moderate, in a word, for the party's vocal right wing.

This would be the case especially if right-wing elements, who do not have a strong candidate of their own, began coalescing behind Mr Mulroney or Mr Crosbie, both of whom have business backgrounds, after the first ballot.

A large, enigmatic shadow will figuratively loom over the convention polling booths as the delegates cast their ballots.

It will be that of Mr Pierre Trudeau, the veteran Liberal Prime Minister, who is still keeping everybody guessing about his retirement plans. He has promised to step down before the next general election, expected next year.



Mr John Crosbie: strong challenger

ILO delay on pipeline questioned

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Russia has accused the International Labour Organization of shilly-shallying on sending officials to investigate labour conditions on the 4,451km trans-Siberian pipeline for supplying natural gas to Western Europe. Western reports have alleged that workers from forced-labour camps and Vietnam were being employed.

Mr Vassili Prokhorov, vice-chairman of the Soviet Central Trade Union Council, told a press conference in Geneva yesterday that the allegations had been "a deliberate attempt to get the ILO involved in just another anti-Soviet campaign".

He said that the council, had invited the ILO last October to send representatives but its insistence on "inventing various preconditions" had led to interminable delay.

Mr Francis Blanchard, the ILO director-general, said a few days ago that the ILO had been able to obtain Soviet guarantees that its projected three-man mission would have unimpeded access to anything they wanted to see at pipeline sites.

Mr Prokhorov urged the ILO to "hurry up with their visit as the construction was rapidly coming to its completion - now, there is practically nothing to see because the project is almost finished". Only 150km of pipe remained to be insulated and laid in the trenches.

Neither forced labour nor Vietnamese had been in the work force, 40,000 strong at one time and mostly skilled, he added. All Vietnamese workers in the Soviet Union were at various enterprises acquiring skills for use in similar enterprises set up in their own country with Soviet aid.

● MOSCOW - A Siberian woodworker who circulated a petition calling on America and the Soviet Union to scrap their nuclear weapons has been sentenced to three years in prison, his wife said yesterday.

Mr Alexander Shadravka, was arrested last July as he collected signatures on the petition.

MEPs back lead-free campaign

Strasbourg - The campaign for lead-free petrol in the EEC has won full backing of the European Parliament. On Monday, it approved a report calling for a significant reduction in the amount of the metal added to fuel by 1985 and for the phasing in of lead-free petrol "as soon as possible".

The report had called for lead-free petrol by 1985, but the Parliament accepted that this was not possible before 1988. However, it was agreed that member states should reduce the permitted level of lead from the present maximum of 0.4 grammes per litre to 0.15 grammes per litre by 1985.

Exodus over

Moscow (NYT) - Leaders of the Soviet anti-Zionist committee set up six weeks ago said they were satisfied that Jewish emigration had effectively stopped because most Soviet Jews who wanted to leave had gone.

Bus casualties

Bonn - Six British tourists were still in hospital in Aisfeld, West Germany, yesterday after a bus taking a tour group from Austria to Ostend ran off the road on Monday evening, injuring 40 of the 41 passengers.

Visa refused

Washington (NYT) - The State Department has refused Mrs Bernadette Devlin McAliskey a visa, because of reports that she intended to raise money in the US for a convicted member of the political wing of the Irish Nationalist Liberation Army.

Czech mate

Waldhaus, West Germany (AP) - A young Bavarian man, apparently in love with Czechoslovak woman, crashed his car through border barriers before coming to a halt 20 yards inside Communist-ruled territory. He was returned by Czech border guards 24 hours later.

China cuts investment in heavy industry

From David Bonavia, Peking

China is putting the brakes on industrial investment this year - especially in heavy industry - and seeking a much lower growth rate than the prevailing 7 or 8 per cent.

Mr Yao Yilin, a deputy Prime Minister in charge of planning, told the Sixth National People's Congress here yesterday that investment by the state in fixed assets would be nearly £3 billion less than in 1982.

However, he did not explain how China could meet its goal of quadrupling national output by the year 2000 if growth rates were cut.

Addressing the nearly 3,000 delegates from all parts of China on the second day of the Congress, Mr Yao said that efforts would be made to increase industrial production by 5 per cent this year. As it had already increased by 7.6 per cent in the first four months over the corresponding period of 1982, a substantial slowdown must be expected between now and December.

According to Mr Xue Muqiao, a leading Chinese economist, over-lavish investment in industry has led to bottlenecks and waste. Nonetheless, observers are surprised at the sudden slow-down both



Mr Zhao Ziyang: Plea to use intellectual resources.

in planned growth and in actual performance.

Another problem is that, contrary to the plan, heavy industry is still growing faster than light industry. For this year as a whole, the planned growth rates are 3.9 per cent and 4.1 per cent respectively. Agricultural production is expected to grow by 4 per cent this year.

The Congress has set up new national committees to handle problems of minority nationalities, law, finance and economics, foreign affairs, overseas Chinese, and a committee on education, science, culture and public health.

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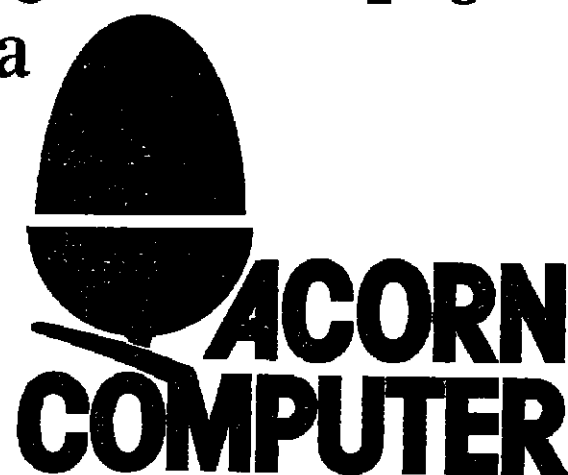
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*Personal Computer News, June 3rd., 1983.

THE ARTS

Julie Kavanagh, in Shanghai, experiences the two-way success of the Royal Ballet's visit to China

Dancing towards a new freedom

Our arrival in Shanghai boded well: it was cold and raining - sweet relief after the dusty oven of Peking. The day we rolled up the Great Wall it was 97 degrees Fahrenheit, and Peking was recorded as the hottest city in the world. Even so the 10 performances there were a great success. Coaches waiting on the tarmac whisked us in minutes to a new hotel in large, lush grounds. The staff had lined the entrance to applaud the Royal Ballet's arrival, and their enthusiasm was soon reciprocated by the dancers. "There's a bar, a bar!" Everything's so normal! People affectionately fingered the bottles of Pimm's in the hotel shop, and at lunch, when plates of chips arrived, there were hyperbolic swoons of delight.

Food had been the main talking-point even before we arrived in China. There were scare stories of what to expect at banquets: Norman Morris, director of the Royal Ballet, had sampled honeyed embryo mice when he came to China with Ballet Rambert; someone else knew someone who had been offered bear's paw, and shaved cat in aspic sliced like a terrine. Dancers from the Festival Ballet (who were here in 1979) told people to prepare themselves "for a constant feeling of hunger": meals would either be inedible or insufficient. In fact, though the food is monotonous - duck appears hot and cold twice a day - and not up to Gerard Street standards, there is more than enough of it. In Shanghai, where things are more westernized, dancers who before were living off emergency rations of tuck, which they had packed in their shoe-bags like schoolboys before leaving home, are seen eating in the dining room.

The effect of the home-from-home comforts of the Cypress Hotel on the company's morale is dramatic: apart from the singing cicadas and exotic animal calls from the nearby zoo, we could be at a Holiday Inn in Sussex. Leslie Edwards came across a mock-Tudor house in the grounds. "Very Godfrey Winn, my dear." Our hotel in Peking, the Yanjing, was much more redolent of China: every room had two familiar filled armchairs decked with embroidered white cotton squares; and a tray with painted tin flasks of water, blue and white china cups with lids and a wooden box of jasmine tea. Also in every room was an unhoovered

carpet, a cockroach and a grimy plastic comb. Foreign visitors to China cannot choose their hotels; the Chinese decide for you according to who you are and how full the hotels are. Our interpreter told us we were staying in the Cypress because we were a "very important group".

VIC treatment continued when we went to the Shanghai Ballet School for a demonstration by members of their company and ours. A fireworks display - ear-splitting despite the rain - greeted our arrival; there was a large banner welcoming the Royal Ballet and an ovation by the Chinese dancers. About a dozen of them - evidently the cream of the company and aged between 18 and 20 - were chosen to perform extracts from Russian classics as well as a couple of items by contemporary Chinese choreographers. What struck one immediately was the freedom of content in the newer works, which were love stories - one quite risqué about the tortured affair between a mother and her stepson.

Several of the girls had long Balanchine-style bodies, while the boys exhibited their Russian schooling with their exaggerated upright carriage and virtuosic technique. Also impressive was the way the company has imposed a national flavour on the inherited works: in *The Dying Swan*, for example, the soloist incorporated the oddly stilted arm movement (as if seen in strobe light) that is a feature of the Peacock Dance, native to the Thai border. Deliberately saved until the end was the pas de deux from *Don Quixote*, danced by a boy with striking Mongolian features and a child-faced girl who was to enchant and invigorate the Royal Ballet so much, that days later they were still discussing her.

We all watched agape as the 20-year-old Huang Chi Feng held ten-second balances in one attitude after another, finally swivelling unsupported with the end of his torso. The first sequence she started with 16 perfect doubles. Coupled with this phenomenal technique was a lively presence and charm. The Royal Ballet roared their admiration for her at the end and she was visibly thrilled to have her brilliance confirmed. A little chastened by the standard of what they had seen, the British dancers gave a morris dancing demonstration that much amused the Chinese, and



Absorbing all the influences: Wayne Eagling, in army cap, at the Forbidden City in Peking

pas de deux from *La Fille mal gardée* and *Manon*. Merle Park decided to perform an impromptu, more virtuosic duet from the climax of MacMillan's ballet.

The Shanghai Ballet demonstration and the accuracy of training that has been seen in schools both here and in Peking have caused considerable excitement all round: one dancer has been day-dreaming about coming back to China to acquire some virtuosic tricks; others hope to persuade the Royal Ballet to invite guest Chinese teachers to London, which may well come about. Sir Claus Moser, Chairman of Covent Garden, stressing the importance of maintaining cultural relations with China, "which is so much at stake at point economically and artistically", said that he would love to find ways of attaching the more promising Chinese dancers to the Royal Ballet for a few years, and encouraging their best teachers to spend time in England. "First of all, we must come back," Sir Claus also went to a demonstration by students from Peking's Conservatoire of Music, which he said was the most exciting and enjoyable experience he has had in years.

One reason behind China's new artistic strength is her eager assimilation of influences from outside: time and again the Chinese have remarked that the Royal Ballet's visit is valued

as a source of instruction as much as entertainment. Much of their repertoire has already been seen - and presumably studied - on video. If China now has outstanding dancers and teachers (several are former dancers who, because of the Cultural Revolution, missed out on their own careers but are passing on their knowledge) what they still lack, and what the Royal Ballet's season will exhibit, is choreographic strength and attention to stylistic detail, like balletism.

By way of return, the more enterprising Royal Ballet members have been absorbing all they can from the Chinese. Inspired by an acrobat we saw in the Peking Opera, whose landings were as soft as a cat's, Stephen Sheriff, making his debut as the Blue Boy in *Painlevé*, had lessons in Peking to improve his "butterflies". Ashley Fage and Jonathan Burrows were taught Tai chi every morning between 5.30 and 7, and we may well see the large movements distilled into their choreography. Several dancers have had acupuncture and the steel-fingered, pressure-point massage the Chinese specialize in. About a dozen of the company hired bicycles in Peking, one cycling to the Great Wall and back in a day. "Hoh! Great, great!" said our interpreter when he heard that. "Not even the Chinese would do that." The ramshackle department

store near the Peking theatre, which the dancers renamed Debenhams, was crisscrossed by army caps, Mao jackets and black canvas shoes that cost all of 3 yuan - 90p.

It is apparently even harder for the public to buy tickets here than it was in Peking. Like anywhere in the world things depend largely on who you know. An English teacher and ardent ballet fan I spoke to said she devotes considerable time to dining theatrical contacts and sending them gifts. Outside the theatre on the first night a crowd of over a hundred students clamoured in vain for tickets when the dancers arrived. Earflaps because of the ticket shortage, the audience in the Peking Opera House was so packed that they reacted enthusiastically to technical displays (Philip Broomhead's hyper-extended grand jets and Stephen Beagley's neat bird volés).

Awareness of a discriminating audience out front has given the dancers a competitive, "let's show them" attitude. They are beginning to look tired for the first time on the tour, but the fact there are only four more Reunions to go (there will have been 17 performances in three weeks) and they are less than a fortnight from home keeps their spirits impressively buoyant.

Julie Kavanagh is Arts Editor of *Harper's and Queen*.

Concerts

Sonorous daring

Schola Cantorum/
Leonhardt
Spitalfields

This season has produced some fascinating combinations of directors from abroad with the best English performers of eighteenth-century music. First Sigiswald Kuijken came to lead the London Baroque Players, then Arnold Shostak arrived to conduct *Chaconne* at Sadler's Wells, and on Monday night Gustav Leonhardt directed the Schola Cantorum of Oxford and a specially-formed Spitalfields Baroque Orchestra in a programme of Bach.

Many of the players in these events have been the same but the results have been radically different; it was Leonhardt who risked most and gained most from an approach that is quite unfamiliar in this country. There was no easy reliance on the changing rhythms and near-figuration of many of the pieces, much period-instrument playing here: every musical gesture was boldly, at times awkwardly, swept into place, and often the forward pulse of the playing was sacrificed to an extraordinarily tense insistence on a "tiny metrical shape or breathing space".

The technique paid its price in the choral writing: this is the only time I have heard an English

group even approach the swift, quickly-fading attack and gentle chording of such continental choirs as the *Chœur Collegium Vocale*, and in the minute serenity of the *Canons for Zelenka* the result was not in the least affected: even though the singers were clearly only beginning to come to terms with the sound. Ready gestures (also heard to beautiful effect in *Canons* 1597) and heady, whispering, their overlapping dissonances (well caught by the wonderful bloom of the church's acoustics) matched the choral voices perfectly.

The soloists, alas, sounded quite out of it all. Ian Partridge was understandably reluctant to give voice at all in *Canons* 106 lest he should overtake the proceedings, and, though Jennifer Smith was allowed to blossom in *Canons* 128, only Max van Egmond could sustain a line that was in scale with the occasion. Between the two cantatas Leonhardt's taste for a relaxed, lilting, sinuous tempo, with some unorthodox tempi but most expressive playing from first, oboe and strings and admirably clear counterpoint from the bassoon - a suave, humane account to set beside Harnoncourt's hectic virtuosity in the same *Canons* on the Tafelmusik's recording of Bach's cantatas.

Nicholas Kenyon

RCS/Davies
Festival Hall

Since splendour of a solitary kind is consistently denied Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, there can hardly be a better practical and aesthetic move in programme planning than to twin it with a work which forces out, with similar forces, a different reflection of the same glory: Nielsen's *Hymnus Amoris*.

Despite Nielsen's claims for the elevating and universalizing power of Love, his half-hour work is of more specific and often more affective human proportions than the final choral movement of the Beethoven. The childhood chorus, fearlessly and simply sung on Monday by the choir of Trinity College of Music Junior Department, focuses the blithe, child-like experience of the unifying power of love that radiates the entire work.

This deceptive simplicity is saved from the simplistic by shrewd touches like the use of three male voices of contrasting

timbres (Philip Langridge, Bryce Kershaw, John Shirley-Quirk) for the recitations of old songs or the receding, serene plaint (Margaret Curphey), disrupting the self-assured men's choruses. The Royal Choral Society had the full measure of the multifarious, contrapuntal writing interlarded and pointed by heavily selected, orchestral colours.

After the interval, we had good reason to be grateful for the presence of John Shirley-Quirk, this thrillingly expressive "O Freunde, nicht diese Töne!" went straight to the mark, as it determined to direct and galvanize all that was to come, as well, alas, as being all too apt a response to what had gone before. For, despite assiduous and valiant singing from choruses and soloists, yet another band of dupes from the London Symphony Orchestra gave us performance which, in its alternation between hollow rhetoric and bland, even careless complacency, was less than worthy of its large and loyal audience.

Hilary Finch

Dance

Cinderella
Coliseum

Ben Stevenson mounted *Cinderella* for Festival Ballet 10 years ago but it did not last long in the repertoire. The took it down from the shelf for a Christmas tour and on Monday the revival had its first London showing at the Coliseum. Will it have better luck this time?

The music, at least, is more attractive than Prokofiev's other long ballets, and the Festival Ballet orchestra gave a decent account of it under Graham Bond's direction. Lighter in texture than *Romeo*, more melodious too, it is a modern equivalent of those likable, craftsmanlike nineteenth-century scores which are so often and unjustifiably abused.

The structure of the music more or less dictates the action, but even so the resemblances between Stevenson's production and Ashton's more famous one at Covent Garden are too close for comfort, drawing attention to the fact that, as a dance inventor, the younger man is not competing in the same league. His dance routines are just that - routine.

Now and again he has a really intelligent production touch. The best is near the end, when the prince recognizes Cinderella as soon as he sees her face without needing to see the shoes tried on. But Stevenson's ugly sisters are not very funny: no

likelihood of these stealing the show though Ken Wells tries his kleptomaniac best.

In the opening cast, Patricia Rusman made a *Cinderella* responsive to every change of mood and circumstance. Jones Kage is a handsome and ardent lover for her, an exceptionally strong partner and a dashing soloist. The other outstanding performance came from Koen Onzia as the jester, amazingly speedy, light and strong.

The fairies who escort Cinderella have less interesting dances than in Ashton, and almost disappear among the guests at the ball. Peter Farnham's designs also evoke a sense of *déjà vu*, but are in better taste than the present Covent Garden version.

John Percival

Television

Natural delights

Richard Mabey's *Back to the Roots* series on Channel 4 is immensely educational. By the time the eight programmes are ended, we shall no doubt be looking at the countryside not only differently but hungrily.

Last night he was focusing on the old British custom of cut-and-come-again. Our ancestors, who were much smarter than we might have thought in their attitude to the natural world, used this method to nurture plants in the wild, an alternative way of provisioning to hunting or cultivation and one of which Mr Mabey, one of our most influential conservationists, approves.

He introduced us first to the delights of sea kale, the shoot of which, apparently, are as tasty as asparagus. Once it was plentiful along our shores. Then, in the nineteenth century, a botanist wrote a pamphlet extolling its virtues and gar-

deners descended wholesale and dug up the plants to grow in their gardens. Our ancestors, of course, would have left it where it was and come back for more. Now only one plant survives on the whole Norfolk coast and Mr Mabey crouched over it and mourned.

The wild service tree has fared better. Its berries are consumed in place of sweets by the poor and publicans used them to sweeten their beer-mash. Sugar and the import of fresh fruits left the service tree - known in parts of the country as

"chequers" because of the past association with brewing forgotten. Mr Mabey ate a couple of berries and pronounced them good.

He also warned against a pejorative attitude to all weeds. Melde, for instance, also known as "fat hen", presumably because it was used to enhance poultry, could be cooked and was every bit as good as spinach. Mr Mabey also demonstrated how the natural management of woodland, coppicing, which yields a continuous supply of wood without destroying woods, is back in favour.

Only one complaint against Mr Mabey, who will next week be dealing with herbs and their place in our superstitions: I do wish he would slow down. But he is value for money and there is, of course, a book on the series.

Dennis Hackett

Holly Hill reports from New York on British success in this year's Tony awards

Cheering day for Broadway

The New York theatre community expected this year's Tony awards ceremony to be more hollow than heartfelt. Depressing statistics about the 1982-83 season were bruited last week in trade and national newspapers: 27 out of 41 new shows were officially labelled flops, and not one new show has yet recouped its investment. Even more alarming than a plethora of fast flops has been the refusal of audiences to support even such critically acclaimed works as Lanford Wilson's *Angels in Fall* and the RSC's *All's Well That Ends Well*. The formula for artistic and commercial success having been mislaid, the future looks alarming.

The Tony awards relieved this gloomy atmosphere by celebrating Broadway's past and present in its most firmly conceived and stylishly executed show in years. Its theme - a salute to the work of George and Ira Gershwin - was not imposed upon the show but grew out of an occasion, the remaining, during the telecast, of the *Unlabeled Gershwin Theatre*. The opening number, the jubilant "Kickin' the Clouds Away" from the current *My One and Only*, led gracefully into guest artists' presentation of other Gershwin songs throughout the evening.

An ingenious innovation this year was the use of actors costumed for their roles in current Broadway shows to give the awards. Alternately viewing costumes from current shows and performers doing Gershwin numbers in a silvery Art Deco setting reinforced the linkage of past and present.

Elements which joined past and present to the future were the comments of several winners. Andrew Lloyd Webber, accepting the award for Best Score of a Musical for *Cats*, expressed the hope that there will be a free exchange of musicals between America and England. A producer of *On Your Toes*, which won an Outstanding Reproduction, took the award as a sign of approval for continuing to preserve and present faithfully "American theatre's greatest art form, the Broadway musical". Harvey Fierstein, who carried off Tonys both as Outstanding Actor and for Best Play for *Torch Song Trilogy*, retold the rags-to-riches saga of his show's genesis in an off-off-Broadway basement - an implicit reminder that such progressions can happen again.

Fierstein's victory for best play exemplified the healing aspect of the Tonys in a year of bitter battles over nominations. The Tony nominating committee, which has promised to reconsider its rules, was most criticized for leaving Neil Simon's *Brighton Beach Memoirs* off its final list. The *Trilogy*, which looks to be Broadway's first long-running hit about homosexuals, clearly became the sentimental favourite.

The nominating committee's blunder in not permitting, despite precedent, Kathy Bates and Ann Fienstad to be nominated together as Outstanding Actress for the two-character *Night, Mother* may have cost them the award (they were nominated separately), but Jessica Tandy was a popular winner for *Forrest*. Possibly reacting to injustices in the nominating process, Tony voters this year appear to have wanted to spread the wealth. Thus John Napier won Outstanding Costume Design for *Cats* but lost to Ming Cho Lee's Setting for *K2*. Tommy Tune and Thommie Walsh won Outstanding Choreography for *My One and Only*, but lost Outstanding Director of a Musical to Trevor Nunn's *Cats*.

Alexander H. Cohen's presentation of the Tonys was virtually flawless, but it would be more fun if the television audience could see what goes on in the theatre itself. During one commercial break Mr Cohen, who before the ceremonies had begged winners to keep their thanks brief, darted on stage to announce: "I'd like to say that the longest playing record of the acceptance speeches will be available in the lobby as you leave." Television cameras shot above the "F" row which was stuck at the headline of Jessica Tandy's white lace gown, and above the exquisitely posed feet of Natalia Makarova as she accepted her Outstanding Actress in a Musical award.

Audiences heard Miss Makarova's delightful thanks to "my husband, who didn't help much but wasn't in my way", but missed his laughter at the comment, and were also forced elsewhere when Trevor Nunn gave a little jump for joy in his seat when *Cats* won the Best Musical.

Theatre

As You Like It
Regent's Park

With a pugilistic musical planned for next month and a wrestling match in *As You Like It*, the front stalls at Regent's Park this year could be labelled "Ringside". It is not often one sees an Olympic skating champion half-nude on a broken-down bus before going on to give a very decent performance of a Shakespearean romantic lead.

But there are more reasons for visiting this production than John Curry's debut as Orlando: a lovely Rosalind, a brilliant Touchstone, an exceptionally distinguished Jacques played by a well-known director, and a pretty production by Richard Digby Day which, despite its unpretentiousness (or perhaps because of it), presents the charm and fun and pain of the play intact.

Hugh Durrant's costumes - the sylvan set with its grotto and blossom-strewn walks in there already, of course - are nineteenth-century, for pre-

ness as much as anything. James Cairncross's cigar-smoking Duke sports malevolent whiskers, the prim, bespectacled Celia (Abigail McKern) is straight out of Mary Russell Mitford, and blond Oliver (Stephen Rayne) is every inch the squire's brat in side-whiskers and bowler, cowering the Thomas Hardy rustics with a riding-crop.

A voluptuously feminine Victorian maiden with long chestnut curls, Louise Jameson's Rosalind finds her spirit liberated as soon as she dons trousers and, addressed as Sir for the first time, darts Celia a look of excitement at the success of her disguise. The tension of her role-playing is finely judged between high comedy and the aching frustration of wooing her lover in another's person, whatever the verbal brilliance and sportive invention that proximity awakens in her.

Jacques is David Williams, a black-clad figure of Dickensian whimsicality in whom melancholy is both a comic outland

and a lifetime's art. Rich in verbal and psychological insight, the reading finds an anchor in the exceptionally difficult passage (as a former student Jacques, I say this with feeling) where he discovers his life's purpose in social criticism that momentarily seems capable of changing the world. The "seven ages" speech is beautifully done, without gimmicks, a distillation of mischief and bitter sarcasm that is full of flavour to the last drop.

He finds a natural partner in Paul Raffield's sharp, youthful Touchstone, whose Irish brogue rattles out the wit with spic and adroitness and who is perfectly at home in the incongruous period with his motley waistcoat, a red bowler and an endless striped sock doubling as a muffler. This last is removed for a paddle in the brook as he chats with Corin while their goats, audible over the tannoy, browse in the summer evening somewhere in the direction of Baker Street.

Anthony Masters

HENRY COLE

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Canada

Annually, Canada commemorates events of historical importance with its special issues of legal tender coins. This year's silver dollar struck by the Royal Canadian Mint, is the 41st in a series well known to collectors.

The theme for the 1983 silver dollar is the World University Games. Canada is proud to welcome athletes from the United Kingdom to Universiades 1983, being held in Edmonton, Alberta, from July 1st until July 11th.

This is the first time an official coin of the realm has been minted to commemorate the Games. The Universiade dollar is struck in two finishes: Proof and Brilliant Uncirculated, and contains 50% pure silver. 1983 numismatic coin sets are also available.

No order will be accepted after November 30, 1983.

To receive further information on Canadian numismatic coins, send the attached coupon with your name and address to the Royal Canadian Mint, River Road 355, Vanier (Ontario), KIA 0G8 Canada.

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BMW HAVE JUST RE-WITTEN THEM ALL.

Above, the conventional wisdom of the car industry. A set of rules that can be summed up in one word: compromise.

Below, a car that owes little to convention and nothing to compromise: the revolutionary BMW 525e.

The 525e is a paradox on wheels. An automatic, executive saloon that gives you, on the one hand, exhilarating BMW acceleration, and on the other, fuel consumption figures that read like misprints.

(47.9mpg at a constant 56mph for example; a figure even diesels would be jealous of.)

This gain in both performance and efficiency has been achieved with the help of a BMW innovation called the eta engine.

The eta runs much more slowly than normal engines, which is how it stretches fuel.

But it produces its maximum power much earlier, at engine speeds where most driving is done.

Which is why it responds so eagerly.

In the 525e the eta engine is teamed up with another BMW innovation — a four speed automatic gearbox that actually uses less fuel than a five speed manual.

It's a combination that finally lays to rest those time-honoured motoring "rules."

For example, it's no longer true that in order to shrink fuel consumption you have to shrink the engine.

The eta is a smooth running, 2.7 litre, six cylinder engine. Yet it uses less fuel than some engines of just 1.6 litres and four cylinders.

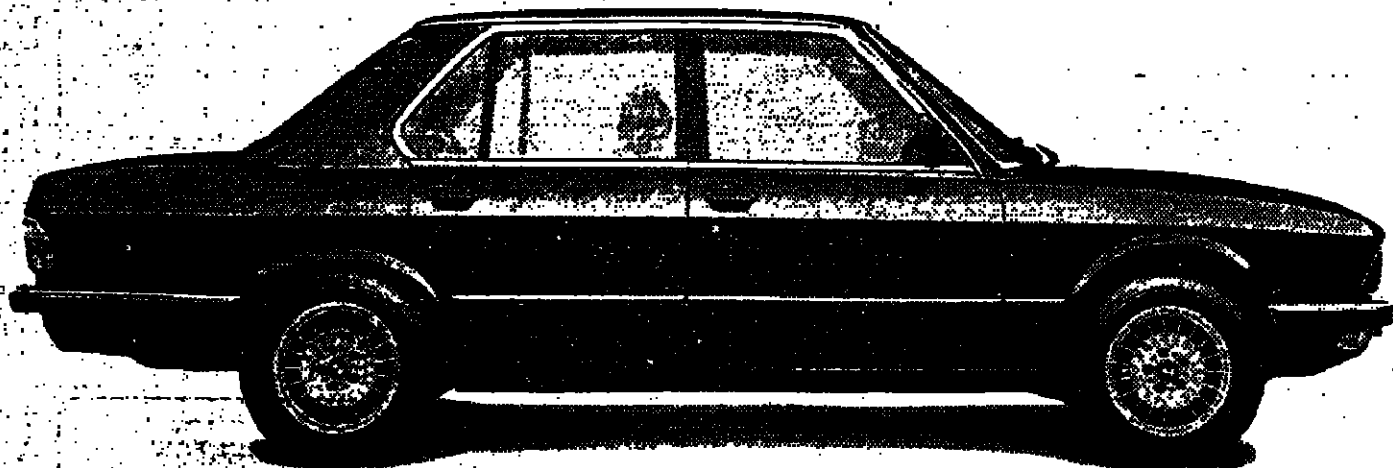
It's no longer true that an economic, low-revving engine leaves you short on power. At just 4,250rpm the eta generates a full-blooded 125bhp.

And it's certainly not true that aerodynamics is the biggest factor in saving fuel. In fact, wind resistance accounts for only 12% of a car's energy loss.

What does count is the engine. Which is why the 525e uses less fuel than the 2.2 litre automatic billed as the most aerodynamic production car in the world.

The 525e is also faster from 0-60 mph. Which demonstrates the most important breakthrough of all: that fuel economy and driving pleasure need not be mutually exclusive.

That a BMW designed for ultimate efficiency can still be the ultimate driving machine.



THE REVOLUTIONARY BMW 525e.

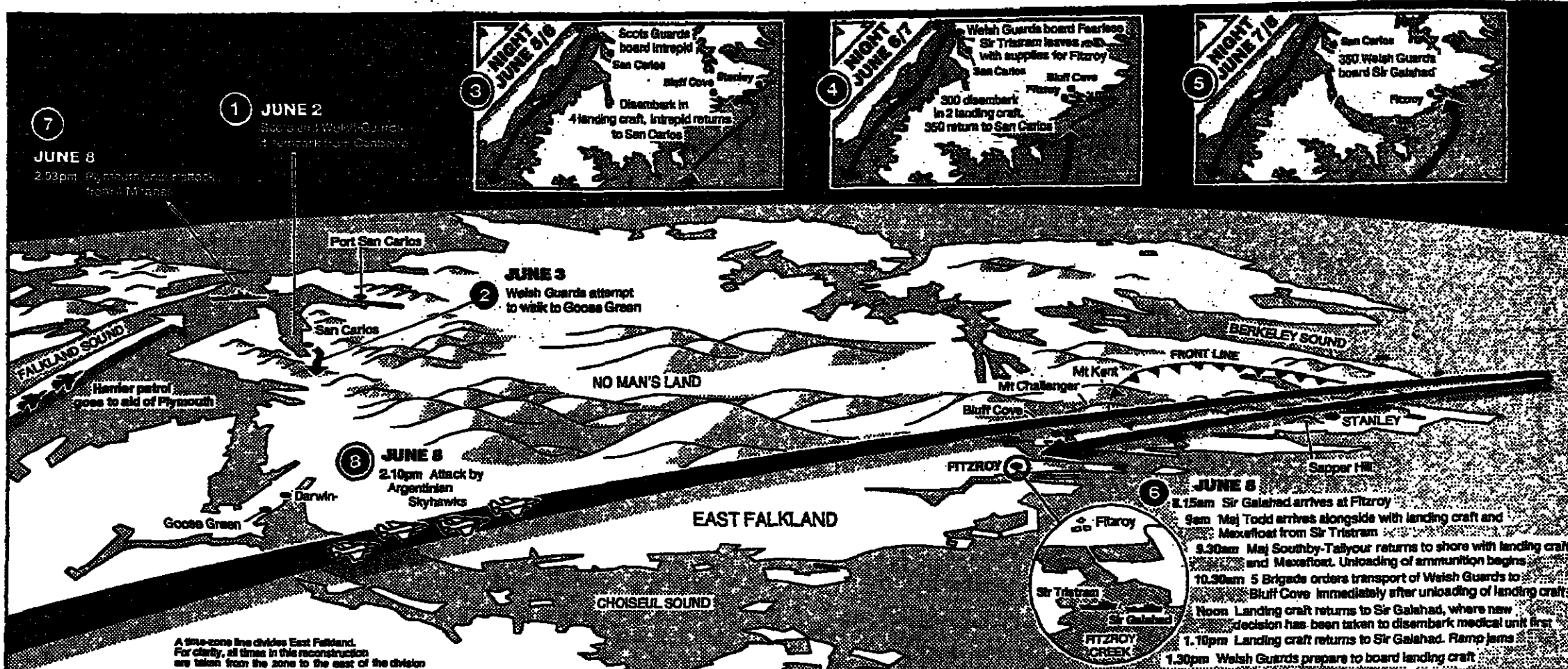
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SPECTRUM

A clear day and a sitting target

The Welsh Guards' tragedy at Fitzroy, one of the most shocking episodes of the Falklands war, was the subject of a naval board of inquiry whose findings were never made public. Jenny Rathbone reconstructs the tangle of conflicting priorities which fatally exposed them a year ago today



In the waters off the small settlement of Fitzroy, during the afternoon of Tuesday, June 8, 1982, British forces sustained their worst casualties of the Falklands war. On a single ship, the Sir Galahad, 48 men were killed. Three times that number were wounded, many of them horribly burnt. It was the last day on which Argentina launched serious air attacks against British forces, and less than a week before the final surrender at Port Stanley.

Sir Galahad had arrived at Fitzroy bay that morning, laden with 350 Welsh Guards and their equipment. She had sat for six hours in broad daylight, in full view of the Argentines occupying the hills between Fitzroy and Port Stanley. Her sister ship Sir Tristram had been anchored 200 yards away since before dawn the previous day, unloading her cargo of ammunition.

The men and machinery on these two logistical landing ships (LSLs) were urgently required to enable the long-awaited, two-brigade advance on Port Stanley to begin. Sending them by sea was the quickest way of getting them to the front line.

The risks involved had been the subject of continuous debate between London and the command off the Falkland Islands over the previous five days. In particular, it had been decided that it was too dangerous to risk a capital assault ship (Intrepid or Fearless) in taking troops to the front. The more expendable LSLs, however, could be used - even though they had no significant defences.

But, unforeseen by the planners, the dangers to Sir Galahad and the Welsh Guards were to multiply in the hours before the ship sailed into Fitzroy bay. The previous day, Monday, June 7 - as was later revealed by signals intelligence - the Argentines manning observation posts overlooking Fitzroy bay, noting the arrival of Sir Tristram and anticipating a troop landing, had sent a message to the mainland requesting an air strike. The Argentine air force was given more than 24 hours to plan and carry out the attack. It was to do so with devastating effect.

The origin of the tragedy goes back to May 25, when the container ship Atlantic Conveyor was hit by an Exocet missile. Three giant Chinook helicopters were lost with the ship, virtually eliminating the airborne troop-carrying capacity of the British task force. Commodore Michael Clapp, the naval officer in charge of the amphibious landing which began on May 21, wanted to postpone any advance out of the San Carlos bridgehead until the losses of the Atlantic Conveyor could be replaced. He was overruled by his superiors in London: the political and military imperatives were to get on with the war.

The author is a researcher for Granada Television's World in Action programme

When the Welsh and Scots Guards disembarked from the Canberra at San Carlos on Wednesday, June 2, Major General Jeremy Moore, the land forces commander, decided that no helicopters could be made available to bring them forward to the front line; they were stretched supplying the troops already situated on the high ground.

The Guards were stuck at San Carlos, but their arrival gave their brigade commander, Brigadier Tony Wilson, the back-up to accelerate movement on the southern route. Having ascertained that no Argentines were occupying the settlements of Fitzroy and Bluff Cove, Wilson commandeered the sole surviving Chinook helicopter on the island to airlift 154 men of 2 Para from Goose Green to within 15 miles of Port Stanley.

Moore's staff were forced to reorganize the movement of helicopters to ensure that 2 Para were reinforced with enough firepower to resist an enemy counter-attack. But as soon as an adequate defensive position had been established, the helicopters reverted to their previous tasks. This left 5 Brigade's command structure and communications vehicles scattered between San Carlos, Darwin, Fitzroy and the two Guards battalions - 5 Brigade's essential infantry component - still stuck at San Carlos.

On June 3, the Welsh Guards tried to walk to Darwin. But when the light tractor and Sno-cat vehicles carrying their heavy equipment broke down after three miles, the plan was abandoned.

An initial plan for both Guards battalions to sail round to Bluff Cove under cover of darkness on the assault ship Intrepid and two LSLs and unload throughout the following day, protected by the Navy's guns, was vetoed by a signal from Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, Commander in Chief in London. Mrs Thatcher was under pressure to move to the negotiating table and the loss of another major warship could seriously undermine her resolution to push on for a military victory. Intrepid was not to be exposed to a daylight air attack.

The Welsh Guards were sent back to their original camp at San Carlos to await fresh instructions. Under a revised plan, the Scots Guards were taken half-way to Bluff Cove on Intrepid and completed the journey in the ship's four large landing craft. They were guided there by Major Ewen Southby-Tailyour, a landing craft and Falklands expert.

On the evening of June 6, the Welsh Guards were loaded on to Fearless, Moore's command ship. Fearless's captain, Jeremy Larkin, argued that with his ship's superior engine speed, and by leaving San Carlos before nightfall, he could halve the distance the Welsh Guards would have to travel by landing craft to complete their journey. But two of Fearless's four landing craft had to be left behind at

San Carlos to continue loading supplies on to Sir Tristram, sailing south with supplies later that night; and a rendezvous with Southby-Tailyour and the Intrepid landing craft never materialized. A force nine gale forced the Intrepid boats to remain in Fitzroy bay.

Major Tony Todd, a Royal Corps of Transport officer on the Commodore's staff, was roused from his bed and told he was to guide half the embarked Welsh Guards to Bluff Cove on the two landing craft Fearless had with her.

Unhappy about having to leave half his men on board Fearless, the Welsh Guards' commanding officer, Lt. Col. John Rickett, left the ship with the understanding that they would join him as soon as possible. Major Guy Sayle, commanding officer of the Prince of Wales company, remained in charge of the 350 Welsh Guards who returned to San Carlos. Discussion about what to do with them went on for nearly 24 hours.

During the deliberations, Fearless was caught in the Falkland Sound in daylight and attacked by Argentine planes. The ship escaped unscathed, but any residual thoughts about using either of the assault ships in a repeat operation were resolved by a further message from Fieldhouse in London. He vetoed any further use of either Fearless or Intrepid; troop movements by sea in future would have to be conducted by LSL.

The LSL in question was Sir Galahad, which had returned empty to San Carlos on the morning of June 7 and was already earmarked to take Rapiers surface-to-air missiles and an army medical team to Fitzroy. It was decided that the ship would sail south of the island that night, taking the Welsh Guards with her.

Once the decision had been made, however, it was clear that the supplies

rather than the troops had become the priority. On board Fearless that day, Brigadier Wilson's priority was to establish an advance dressing station at Fitzroy, and to build up his brigade headquarters and maintenance area there.

Moore's staff, for their part, wanted to make Fitzroy the main maintenance and supply area for both 3 Brigade and 5 Brigade in the forthcoming push on Stanley. With this purpose in view, the Rapiers were uppermost in their minds. Much less attention seems to have been paid by the planners to the Welsh Guards and the field ambulance unit. Contradictory orders were given to the Master of Sir Galahad and to the senior officer commanding the troops.

The Master, Captain Phil Roberts, was told by Major Guy Yeoman of Clapp's staff to go initially to Bluff Cove and to offload the Welsh Guards. He was then to sail the rest of his cargo back round to Fitzroy, all under cover of darkness. Maj Sayle was told by Col. Baxter of General Moore's staff to transfer his Welsh Guards from Fearless to Sir Galahad, which would be sailing to Fitzroy. Sayle was given no new orders, either on board Fearless or subsequently on Sir Galahad, that would have altered those given to him by his commanding officer the previous night before they were separated: Lt. Col. Rickett had told him to bring the men and their equipment to Bluff Cove by sea as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, the medical unit due to sail on Sir Galahad had not been told the ship's schedule. Lieutenant Colonel John Roberts, commanding officer of the 16th Field Ambulance, had been given his orders over an insecure beach net, capable of being listened to by the enemy. It took the field ambulance seven hours after receiving their orders to start coming on board - long after the Welsh Guards had been embarked

and were ready to sail. So Sir Galahad set off for Fitzroy, with less than nine hours of darkness ahead of her.

At Fitzroy, 5 Brigade's staff had received no information about Sir Galahad's movements. Sir Tristram had arrived unannounced before dawn on June 7 and Major Todd, having deposited his 300 Welsh Guards at Bluff Cove, had crossed to Fitzroy with his two landing craft to supervise her unloading. He had six landing craft at his disposal, plus a Mexefloat pontoon.

Whatever message was sent from Fearless at San Carlos on June 7 concerning the rest of the Welsh Guards being sent south on Sir Galahad, there is no evidence that it arrived either at the brigade headquarters at Darwin or forward at Fitzroy. In ignorance, 5 Brigade at Fitzroy relinquished five of the six landing craft overnight: four sailed to rejoin their mother-ship, Intrepid; the fifth was despatched to Goose Green.

Only one person at Fitzroy was expecting Sir Galahad when she arrived there at 8.15 on the morning of June 8. Just before she arrived, Maj. Todd, on board Sir Tristram, had read a signal that had come in overnight on the ship's teleprinter. It gave Sir Galahad's revised departure and arrival time. At that stage, a single landing craft and a Mexefloat pontoon were moored alongside Sir Tristram, waiting for the tide to change.

Todd gathered them together and crossed over to Sir Galahad, now anchored 200 yards away, to start grappling with the new and difficult situation. It was a beautiful clear day; they could see, and be seen, for miles.

Boarding Sir Galahad through the stern gate, Todd invited the commanding officers of the two Welsh Guards rifle companies on board, Sayle and Major Charles Bremner, to take their men ashore immediately at Fitzroy. This, of course, contradicted their expectation, which was to be taken directly to Bluff Cove by sea without separating their men from their equipment. They requested to be taken there without delay.

Maj. Southby-Tailyour, who had also crossed to Sir Galahad from Sir Tristram, joined the discussion on the tank deck. He indicated that it was too dangerous to send the landing craft or the LSL itself to Bluff Cove in daylight, and advised the officers to take their men ashore at Fitzroy. But the frustrated Welsh Guards officers were determined not to allow their men to become a low priority once again.

There were no direct communications between the LSL and 5 Brigade headquarters at Fitzroy settlement, a 20-minute walk from the beach. So Southby-Tailyour was despatched there to seek new orders, leaving the landing craft and the Mexefloat at the beach to begin offloading their pallets of ammunition, more than an hour after the ship had anchored.

The senior staff officer at Fitzroy was Major Barney Rolfe-Smith. His

superiors were all assembled on board Fearless (again anchored in the relative safety of San Carlos Water), for Moore's all-day council of war. Sir Galahad was not uppermost in their minds.

Rolfe-Smith initially greeted Southby-Tailyour's message with disbelief: he thought that most of the Welsh Guards had already landed at Bluff Cove that night before. After an hour's deliberation, he decided that they should disembark first. As soon as the landing craft had unloaded its ammunition, it was to take the Welsh Guards to Bluff Cove - in daylight.

After midday, nearly four hours after Sir Galahad's arrival, the landing craft finished unloading and went back empty to the ship. In the meantime, however, Lt. Col. Roberts had succeeded in getting 5 Brigade's fresh decision altered. It was now agreed that his advance medical unit of 12 men and nine vehicles should get off first - before the Guards.

After depositing the medical unit on Fitzroy beach, there was a further delay: the landing craft was sent round to the jetty at Fitzroy settlement to take on rations and fuel destined for Bluff Cove. Finally, five hours after Sir Galahad's arrival, it returned to the ship to take off the first load of Welsh Guards - but as the landing craft approached the stern gate of Sir Galahad, its ramp jammed.

Forty miles away at San Carlos, a first wave of Argentine aircraft swooped down to attack HMS Plymouth. The single pair of Harriers patrolling the islands south of Falkland were summoned in response to Plymouth's call for help.

No such defences were available to Sir Galahad: no frigates in the area, no Harriers airborne, no Rapiers operational, no Blowpipe troops deployed: poor communications delayed receipt of the original air raid warning at Fitzroy by 12 minutes, and there was no direct link to pass the message on to the ships anchored in the bay. At 2.10pm, four Argentine Skyhawks attacked Sir Galahad and Sir Tristram.

Sir Galahad was hit four times. One unexploded bomb passed clean through the ship's hull. Another exploded in the midst of the Welsh Guards' mortar platoon, assembled in a confined space on the tank deck. Most of them were killed. After the initial shock, the survivors groped around in the darkness and smoke to find escape hatches, with ammunition exploding all around them.

Forty-eight men died on board Sir Galahad, 38 of them Welsh Guards. Two more died on board Sir Tristram. More than 150 were wounded.

Only the heroism of the helicopter crews who flew into the black smoke to rescue the wounded, of the doctors who saved lives and of the soldiers, medics and crew who did what they could to rescue comrades trapped in the wreckage, smoke and flames, did something to save the day.



People who do very unusual jobs indeed

No 9: The man who poses for photographs on the back of shy authors' books

"My face has appeared on 20 or 30 books, and always as the author. I've been a famous thriller writer, a self-sufficiency expert, a professor of semantics, part of *The Sunday Times* insight team - you name it, I've been it. With a blonde wig, I've been the occasional Mills and Boon-type author."

who runs from the camera is the one most obsessed with their appearance? Funny, that. Anyway, the publisher always likes to have a photo on the back, so they get me in.

"Then there's the best-selling author who doesn't like to be recognized in public. So he doesn't want his mug staring out of a million paperbacks, does he? People coming up to him and saying, 'Your characterization was really rosy in chapter eight, you old fraud.' They write a little clause in their contract saying they must not be pictured on the cover, so again they get someone like me in."

"But quite honestly, the main reason is that so many authors look so naïf. They simply don't look the part. You buy a heart-stopping, sexy, thrill-a-minute book, and you don't want a bloke staring at you who looks as if he couldn't defend himself

The most beautiful authors in the world

MOREOVER... Niles Kingston

against a poodle, do you? Or, if he had to kiss a girl, always find himself kissing her nose? So, rather than put a picture of a wet civil servant on the back, the publisher sends for me. No boasting, but I'm semi-rugged, semi-sensitive and that's good for trade.

"Authors are lucky in that they generally don't have to appear in public and even when they do, people don't twig that the bloke on *Russell Hardy* looks nothing like the bloke on the book. It's different if you're a performer. Like, if you're a singer, you can't sing behind a screen. Well, Elton John can sing behind a toupee, huge specs and a grand piano, but even so you can see bits of him."

"That's why I admire Barry

Manilow so much. To have gone so far with a face like that. And songs like that. And, let's be honest, a voice like that. If he'd been an author, he'd been alive would have dared to put his face on a book.

"I think if the public found out how many of their favourite authors were really publishers' models, they'd feel cheated. But I don't see it as cheating. To my way of thinking, I look more like many of my authors than they do. To put it another way, people often don't look like themselves. Have you seen the faces on the election leaflets? Hello, I'm your friendly Labour candidate and all that? Terrible, terrible. They usually look more like Jack the Ripper or Yuri Andropov."

"There's a new trend among publishers to choose authors for their looks. Let's get someone who's going to look smashing on the back of the book, they say. No names, no pack drill, but they sign up Jackie this and Jilly that and Pat the other, just for the glamour. Well, what I want to know is this: can they write as well? I'm only asking."

"Incidentally, Mr Kingston, I hope you don't mind my asking, but who've you got for that picture at the top of your column? Because - and no offence meant - he doesn't do a great deal for it. Either a manic frown. What you need is someone semi-rugged, semi-sensitive. Yes, like me."

"On second thoughts, you ought to do a Richard Boston. Remember that? When he was writing a regular piece for *The Guardian* he used to complain about his mug-shot, so one day the subs stuck in a picture of

Telly Savalas. The readers loved it. Next week they used a picture of Elvis, after that one of Brigitte Bardot, but then the editor stepped in and said it would have to stop. Great pity, I always thought."

"Know who I think would look good at the top of your column? Brahms. Brahms as a young man. Great face. Better than yours. Why not try it just once? See what people think. See if they even notice. Believe me, I think it would work and I should know. I'm doing myself out of a job, after all."

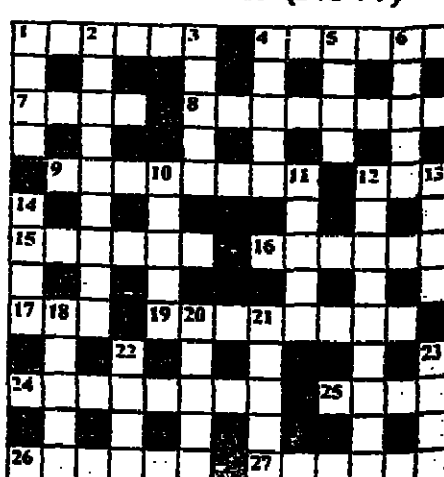
Tomorrow

The Moreover guide to television coverage of the election

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 77)

ACROSS
1 Lump (6)
4 Respect (6)
7 Debt security (4)
8 Control (8)
9 Wicked action (8)
12 Farewell (3)
15 Handsome youth (6)
16 Curve (6)
17 Give weapons (3)
19 Direction (8)
24 Enquiry (8)
25 Fence opening (4)
26 Loveliness (6)
27 Wandering (6)

DOWN
1 Invalid (4)
2 Visitors' area (5, 4)
3 Torus shaped (5)
4 Rowing crew (5)
5 Tax (4)
6 Way in (5)
10 Ewe (5)
11 American plant (5)
12 Hood (9)
13 Feeds on (4)



14 Magma (4)
18 Wake (5)
20 Oneness (5)

21 Simplicity (5)
22 Jacob's brother (4)
23 Supports (4)

SOLUTIONS TO No 76

ACROSS: 1 Osmium 5 Soho 8 Quack 9 Sangria 11 Innocent 13 Fool 15 Neighbour 18 Rota 19 Borrowed 22 Gnocchi 23 Forge 24 Stilt 25 Touche
DOWN: 2 Stain 3 Lik 4 Misanthropist 5 Song 6 Harbour 7 Squalid 10 Able 12 Coal 14 Boar 15 Network 16 Drag 17 Adder 20 Ward 21 Scut 23 Flu

WEDNESDAY PAGE

ALAN FRANKS' DIARY

Home is where the burnt toast is

My daughter tells me she is leaving home. Such moments are never easy for a father, but when the girl is four years old the sense of failure is engulfing. My wife is busy feeding the baby and my three-year-old son is in the potty dicing a slug with his Viking sword, so I have no one to turn to but you. If I am honest, this blow is not entirely unexpected; she has been expressing dissatisfaction with the menage for some time. We are falling down badly on what you might term the Egon Ronay and Isabella Beaton departments: the toast too black, the bread too crusty, the buns too hard, the TV too small, the Hoover too loud, the newspapers too dull, the salary too meagre, the weather too wet, that sort of thing. A no-star rating all round, away with the RAC sign, and of course a merciless drubbing in the next issue of *Which Parents?* She has been having a run-in with my wife on the matter of tidiness (I don't know who was upbraiding whom), and has announced that as from Monday next she will be living in the pub. She doesn't say which one, so I suppose I will have to wait for the change of address card like everyone else.

The window-smearer is here today, and all is gloom. His name is Caetano, but I have no intention of making jokes against the Portuguese only against Caetano. He does have a certain scarcity value as the only Portuguese window cleaner in town, and charges accordingly. He starts at the top and works downwards - as many Latins are said to do - and the effect is of a shawl being draped over a lampshade; there is darkness where once there was light. He is skating a wiper blade across the panes in time to a throaty rendering of *Victoria de los Angeles* duos, but somehow there are still filthy smudges drooping down the glass when he has finished. I really don't know how he does it. I have seen window cleaners from the pointillist and fauvist schools - the dabblers and dabbers of their trade - but this chap must be a virtuoso. A swirling free-former of whom even Wyndham Lewis would have approved. Certainly he is an obscurantist, as the garden is now invisible. I only mention Caetano because at times of family crisis the most disparate elements are hijacked for political ends. I shall return to this theme when things become clearer.



an now offer you a transcript of *Leaving Home* tapes which I e you if I am to expect any sympathy - which I don't. We have established that the Waterman's in River Street is to be her home.

But they don't take children.

They do in the garden.

I see, and who will look after?

David and Charlotte's Daddy.

But he doesn't live at the Waterman's Arms.

David and Charlotte's Mummy does.

Me: And will you come and visit me?
Her: No, you'll come and visit me.
Me: Ah.
Her: Can you take me in the car?
I have this recurring nightmare which involves a 17-year-old called Ray who is in love with his motorbike and my daughter, in that order. He is forever disturbing her A level revision and plucking her away on the pillion of his throbbing monster. His opening line is always: "I got the spare skidlid, Mr Franks", which is in fairness to him, meant to be reassuring, but which never fails to have the opposite effect. If only he'd forget the damned skidlid I could block the outing on a technicality, but then I suppose he would only try to engage her in some indoor pursuit just as damaging to her interest. I cannot blame her for preferring Ray to André Gide, who probably never in his life roared a Harley Davidson at 80 down Tolworth Broadway, or cut a dash in his leathers at the Excel Bowl. Very well, you could retort that Ray is unlikely to come up with L'Immoraliste. But by the way she ties her arms around his waist like a scarf and leans in triumph at his motor as the all rev off, I suspect that he has no shortage of material.

A change of plan. The Waterman's Arms project is off.
Her: I'm going to live in a swimming pool in Ber-muda.
Me: Really? Who's going to pay?
Her: The Times.
Me: That's jolly kind of them. How much will it cost?
Her: Two pence twenty quid.
Me: Very reasonable.



To revert to Caetano: he has now completed his impression of a total eclipse of the sun and is singing a doleful reprise about some wretched dove that has lost its way in a storm. I know the feeling. Caetano, though it is not entirely his fault, has precipitated this Leaving Home business. He always makes a point of ingratiating himself with the children as they play in the front garden; they then - so he claims - tell him their parents would love the windows cleaned, and by the time the first signs are being draped across your vision, it is too late to stop him, for the poor man has been stricken with a sudden language problem. My daughter has enjoyed my disfigurement on many of these occasions, and I still believe it was my hard words with her after the last visit that made her decide it was time to clear out.

Bermuda plan still on. Another rotten night for me, with three Tay dreams on the trot. These ones are so vivid that I creep to my daughter's bedroom just to check that she is still there on the top bunk, that she has not aged 13 years in five hours, and that there are not copies of Gide on the Beatrix Potter shelf. But when I catch a glimpse of her little tress, her soft menagerie crammed into a basket for the eight-hour haul from Heathrow, I realize that reality is gaining ground on the dream.

THE TIMES COOK



Shona Crawford Poole

Flights of fancy

ham Bamboo shoots are sold in tins by every Oriental grocer, and these shops are also the places to buy dried Chinese mushrooms (black or brown), soy sauce, plum sauce, and sesame seed oil, if a local supermarket cannot supply them. A capacious and well-behaved frying pan can be substituted for a wok.

Sautéed minced pigeon
Serves four
30 g (1 oz) dried Chinese mushrooms
Breast meat of 2 young pigeons, about 225 g (8 oz)
110 g (4 oz) tinned bamboo shoots
55 g (2 oz) Yunnan or other smoked ham
55 g (2 oz) spring onions
55 g (2 oz) shelled peanuts
55 g (2 oz) pine kernels
Salt
Sugar
Monosodium glutamate (optional)
1 teaspoon cornflour

1 raw egg yolk
About 2 tablespoons peanut oil
1 teaspoon soy sauce
1 teaspoon sesame oil

Cover the dried mushrooms with cold water and leave them to soak for an hour or two, overnight. Cut the pigeon meat into slices, then narrow strips and finally into cubes of the size of match-heads.

Drain the mushrooms, discard the stalks and cut the caps into equally small dice. Drain and dice the bamboo shoots and chop the spring onions, peanuts and pine kernels into pieces of approximately the same size.

To the pigeon meat add a quarter teaspoon each of salt, sugar and monosodium glutamate, the cornflour, egg yolk and a tablespoon of water. Mix well.

Heat the wok until it is very hot and add about a teaspoon of peanut oil. Add the pigeon meat and stir fry it very briefly until it is about half cooked. Tip it into a sieve over a bowl and keep warm.

Dry the wok and add the bamboo shoots. Dry fry them, shaking and stirring constantly for about a minute. Add the bamboo shoots to the pigeon.

Add the remaining peanut oil to the wok and when it is really hot add the ham, spring onions, peanuts, and pine kernels and return the pigeon and bamboo shoots to the pan. Shake and stir the mixture on a high heat, sprinkling the soy sauce and sesame oil on to it and frying until the mixture is dry. Serve immediately.

Chef Lam serves the pigeon with deep fried rice stuck noodles as well as the plum sauce and lettuce. These are the thin noodles made of rice flour which puff up and become pale and brittle when deep fried in peanut oil. They take less than a minute to cook.



Carolyn Douglas and Ruth Schmidt conducting an Exploring Parenthood workshop

Growing into parenthood

More and more people are seeking advice to help them to avoid the pitfalls of bringing up their children. Peta Levi explains

Jennie is in her early forties and is one of a growing number of people attracted to workshops run by a new national organization called Exploring Parenthood. A primary school teacher, she divorced her alcoholic husband 15 months ago and is bringing up three children aged 10, seven and five. She says: "I think that the old guidelines for bringing up a family have gone out of the window - religion is weak and moral values have been turned upside down."

"I don't turn to friends for advice because none is in a similar position; and my parents, like many others, are suspicious of anything starting with 'yes', so they fall back on the traditional ways of bringing up a family."

She does not know what caused her husband's alcoholism, but says that with his strict religious background, he thought he could cure it through his own willpower and was not prepared to seek psychotherapeutic help. But Jennie took herself to a psychiatrist and the family to a child guidance clinic to help them through this difficult time. "There were no specific problems - the children weren't bed-wetting or screaming at night - but I wanted a safety net for them and a sounding-board for myself to test out what I was thinking and feeling. I am aware of some of the traps, like becoming a dominant mother to my son when there is no father figure. I wondered if I was wasting the child counsellor's time, but she said it was refreshing for her to see a family before the children had become delinquent and before the mother was having a nervous breakdown; a great deal of children's behaviour depends on how the mother is feeling and coping."

Exploring Parenthood discusses and explores with professionals as well as with other parents the everyday challenges and pleasures of being a parent. It was formed in 1982 by Ruth Schmidt, a child psychotherapist, and Carolyn Douglas, a family therapist, who were colleagues for seven years in the Department for Children and Parents at the Paddington Centre for Psychotherapy. Through their work at the centre they saw a wide range of children with behaviour problems and realized that there is a great lack of knowledge about the emotional development of children and adults and that many parents would have welcomed the opportunity to discuss behaviour patterns

with professionals before a crisis erupted.

In 1981 Ruth and Carolyn were invited to give a workshop on parenthood for the Westminster Pastoral Foundation (an organization for training counsellors). Afterwards they sent a report to Dr Hugh Jolly, paediatrician at Charing Cross Hospital. Jolly became interested and spent an afternoon questioning them on their ideas and aims. At the end he suggested they should start a national organization as he felt there was a great need for such workshops.

He is now joint sponsor of Exploring Parenthood with Richard Whitfield, Professor of Education at Aston University.

Carolyn is in her early forties and is married with three children; Ruth is in her late thirties and is unmarried. Both are warm and caring. They have selected a team of 12 professionals from people whose work they know well and most of whom have families. This peripatetic team, which includes psychiatrists, psychologists, analysts, therapists and a marriage guidance counsellor, will travel to any part of Britain to give a workshop. They have already held two in London and one in Paris for English-speaking parents abroad (Carolyn is now based in Paris because of her husband's job). Workshops usually take the form of talks from professionals followed by small group discussions. Requests to run workshops have come from groups as varied as the North East Pre-School Playgroups Association, parents representing the National Childbirth Trust and National Housewives Register and a London-based company for their employees, mostly male, who often face stress of various kinds with their families. The themes of future workshops will include Divorce and separation; Parents and their adolescent children; and Full Circle, from birth to old age, including parenting one's parents.

Is such an organization really necessary? I asked a north London GP who for 14 years has run a large family practice. He felt that parents would be unlikely to go to such workshops unless they had a problem, and that the National

Health Service in most parts of the country provides an adequate standard of help for people with specific problems. But, he added, many people are frightened about seeking professional advice, particularly if the problem is emotional rather than physical, and an organization which bridged the gap between parents and professionals would be a good thing.

The doctor also pointed out that most social rules have been successfully challenged over the last 20 years and this had led to insecurity and uncertainty about where the boundaries lie. More children were going to his surgery with physical complaints - headaches, tummy aches and recently a severe case of eczema - which turned out to be caused by emotional stress at home.

Who goes to the Exploring Parenthood workshops? A surprising variety of people - happily married couples, single fathers/mothers, divorced, separated people and one couple who did not have children but wanted to know how a family might affect their lives. One single-parent father, who runs his own business from home, does the cooking and housework and brings up his teenage son and daughter, says he finds the workshops useful because they provide "a professional environment where I can discuss intimate worries with intelligent people - not subjects I particularly want to discuss with my friends. Having to be mother and father, I want to increase my knowledge of how children develop emotionally and physically, so that I can help them to realize their potential."

Most, but not all, participants are middle class. One woman who is not, a representative of the One O'Clock Club run by the GLC, says, "Many London working class parents of pre-school children feel isolated, either because they are single parents or because they have moved away from their families. They feel they are constantly being criticized and told what to do, when in fact they are doing a good parenting job, but need their self-confidence built up in order to carry on."

Her observation was supported by the results of a survey just published

in *Woman* magazine. Of 7,000 mothers who replied to a questionnaire, one in seven hardly ever ventures out with small children because of the hostility they meet from the general public; the combination of this hostility and the physical problems with push-chairs on public transport revealed that one in three never take their children on trains and one in five don't attempt to travel on a bus; one in three won't go to the local park because of the dogs' dirt or fear of gangs of youths. Considering that 70 per cent of women in Britain don't drive, these are appalling figures.

Don't most people turn to their friends and family for advice on bringing up children? Ruth replies: "The notion that problems can safely be contained within the family is highly idealized. Much misery and thwarting of growth went unnoticed in the past, mainly because people's expectations were more limited and the idea of personal growth and change had not become as acceptable as it is today. An understanding of emotional development is hardly a luxury pursuit for the limited few, but an extension of public health."

Ruth and Carolyn believe there is a tremendous emotional investment in parenthood - often blanketed by secrecy because of the fear of failure. The statistics supplied by child guidance clinics are therefore unlikely to give an accurate picture of the general level of stress.

Ruth concludes: "We are trying to disseminate basic information about the requirements for healthy emotional growth and development and to combine parental skills with those of experts to help parents understand the meaning of their own and their children's behaviour, so that they are not shattered by events erupting 'out of the blue', like drug addiction, failure in later life, depression and suicide; wasted lives and ambitions. This process is also one of discovery for both parents and children and can be pleasurable and exciting for both."

The single-parent father quoted earlier commented: "Twenty years ago businessmen scoffed at the idea of sending managers to business school, but today it is accepted that you train in order to become a more effective businessman. Today people may laugh at training parents to parent, but one day people will accept it as part of a normal education."

TALKBACK

Swedish slant

From Bo Carlsson, Richmond, Surrey
I read the article about Swedish children who are taken into care (*Times*, May 27) with horror and sadness. However, my reaction was not caused by the plight of children and families subjected to namby-pamby official meddling. My horror was at the gross distortion of truth in the article. My sadness was that *The Times* published it.

For the past 13 years I have been working with issues concerning children in Sweden and abroad. I have also had the opportunity to look into almost all figures concerning children in Sweden.

It is not true that between five and ten times as many children are taken into care in Sweden as in any comparable country. In 1978, for example, 10,187 children under 18 were taken into care by Swedish local authorities. This does not include children voluntarily placed into foster homes by their parents. Even adding voluntary fostering to compulsory orders, the total comes to around 1 per cent of the child population. For Britain the figure is about the same.

The article says that 30,278 decisions were made by the child care authorities in 1979 so that every third child born in Sweden can expect to come to the attention of social workers. This is a distortion. Many of these decisions are multiple, ie, two or three decisions about the same child. Many of the decisions are also responses to requests from parents for nursery school placements or for day-care help for working parents. The conclusions drawn from the statistics in *The Times* article are, therefore, bogus.

Marriage meaning

From Mrs Molly Cross, Warkworth, Northumberland
As a woman with 39 years' experience of happy married life behind me, during which my husband and I both worked and shared the household jobs, (and this is by no means a unique situation in our more than middle-aged age group), I felt impelled to reply to Veronica Edwards' article on the subject of marriage (May 27). In my opinion, it reveals a total misunderstanding of what marriage is about.

Marriage, at whatever stage, should not be a matter of struggling to retain one's independence. If that is the case, then why marry? True freedom involves responsibility, and happiness is not achieved by simply doing your own thing. In the case of marriage, freedom is a two-way process of give and take.

I am sorry for Veronica Edwards. Hers is a shabby substitute for the real thing.

Hard of hearing

From Mrs D. M. Myers, Chorleywood, Herts.

Kathy Robinson's report in *First Person* (June 1) of her daughter's schooling was good reading. I am sure the hearing-impaired are happy with the increased recognition of their problems. However, while the hearing-impaired child possibly derives great benefits from the type of education Mrs Robinson describes, one wonders what the future will hold socially for such children. From our own observation, a generation is emerging which cannot communicate happily with the hearing - it is very difficult to keep up with them in the long term!

Even more unhappily, they cannot communicate with their hearing-impaired fellows to the detriment of themselves and their fellows. Parents opting for this type of education should ensure that their children keep in touch with the hearing-impaired.

Out of the valley of tranquillizers

FIRST PERSON

At its worst, being a Valium addict is like those first five minutes after you've just missed having a major car crash: a sense of shock and panic, shaking, feeling sick, not being able to see quite clearly or hear what people are saying.

I was five when the war broke out. My parents were both schoolteachers. The whole family lived in awe of my grandfather, who was a country doctor, a fearsome, dogmatic man who instilled in us all a terror of being happy. We moved all the time. We were quite badly bombed. Before I was 16 I had been to 12 schools.

I longed to leave home. My parents were controlling, yet confusion reigned on every level. As soon as I could get away I found a job on a local newspaper. I was so desperate to be wanted that it took me over 12 months to get out of the night shift. I only left to become a mature student at university.

When I was 26 I went to North America and found a job with an advertising company. I was even quite happy but then I started getting depressed and anxious. Soon I grew terribly frightened.

The first doctor I went to see gave me Librium. It made me calmer. I just kept going back to doctors for repeat prescriptions: I seemed to be able to convince them that I needed it. In those days no one said anything about it being addictive. You just took your "tranx" along with you as you might your lipstick.

Bit by bit, I built the dose up. From three Librium, I went over to Valium. From three Valium I moved up to four, and then five. First they were 15mg

doses. Then I put them up to 25mg.

But by that time - some five years after I had taken that first Librium - I was taking other pills as well: for depression, for migraines, for insomnia, for nausea. I had become a pill freak. I was also becoming ashamed. I didn't want anyone to know what I was doing. I isolated myself from other people.

It was about the time I came back to London to join a management consultancy firm that I realized that I was feeling very peculiar indeed. My vision kept blurring. My migraines got worse. I seemed to forget everything. By now I had been told so often that I was a depressive, that I just assumed that was right.

I was taken into hospital casualty departments five times for different ailments - once after I had collapsed at the wheel of my car. I never told the hospitals how much Valium I was taking; and they never asked me. And then one day a woman locum prised it out of me. She seemed alarmed: "You're taking too much," she said. "You must cut it down."

I went down to 10mg doses. It was then that I really felt terrible. I couldn't swallow properly or breathe. I got muscular spasms; I couldn't write cheques; I started hallucinating; I couldn't telephone because I couldn't remember a number for long enough to dial; I was terrified of losing my job - I think I kept it only because I had my own office and I just kept working all the time. It

took me 14 hours a day to do 6 hours work. Then I came down one side: I started to dribble slightly. My sphincter muscles went: I kept wetting myself. Above all, I was frightened, full of panic.

Then I had the incredible luck to meet an ex-alcoholic. He took me to AA and then to numbers to patients who took the benzodiazepines tranquillisers - a misnomer, as it happens, for the family of some 25 drugs kills emotion rather than tranquillizes - in the early 1960s when they became readily available and are dependent on them to this day.

Between 100,000 and 250,000 people in Britain today are believed to be dependent on these drugs, to the extent that withdrawal is physically and psychologically traumatic. Professor Malcolm Lader of the Institute of Psychiatry says: "In terms of numbers the problem is five times that of heroin at this moment."

Until five years ago, few people in the medical profession even noticed that tranquillizers were capable of inducing all the same symptoms of dependency as barbiturates or alcohol. The worth of the benzodiazepines had been proven in cases of chronic and acute anxiety, and as anti-convulsants and muscle relaxants and universally accepted as very desirable substitutes for the old barbiturates - safer, fewer side effects and almost no risk of overdose.

But patients consulting their doctors for conditions of mild depression and anxiety were routinely being handed prescriptions for these drugs - particularly women, for whom the benzodiazepines were regarded as gentler and more appropriate alternatives to the true anti-depressants.

Tranxene. She has been free, or "clear" as she puts it, for just over a year.

Anna's experience is remarkable for the length of her dependency, for the size of her doses and for her courage in forcing herself to give them up. Yet it is not unique and doctors today are testifying in growing numbers to patients who took the benzodiazepines tranquillisers - a misnomer, as it happens, for the family of some 25 drugs kills emotion rather than tranquillizes - in the early 1960s when they became readily available and are dependent on them to this day.

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But then, five years ago, people started appearing at drug addiction units, self-help medical groups and GP's complaining that when they tried to lower the doses of their tranquillizers or get off them altogether, they were suffering appalling physical and mental discomfort.

"It was all anecdotal to start with," explains Professor Lader, whose research team in London is one of the two in place together with Nottingham, where benzodiazepines dependency and withdrawal is now a subject of investigation and research. "But slowly we started gathering a profile of symptoms: heightened sensitivity to noise and light; pins and needles; metallic tastes in the mouth; feelings of disorientation; nausea; dizziness; palpitations."

Symptoms of severe withdrawal occur, Professor Lader says, after only six months on the upper limit of the recommended dose (30 mg per day) or as little as a month on a very high one. Yet coming off has to be taken seriously - sudden stopping has been known to produce epileptic fits.

Professor Lader agrees that there undoubtedly exist a few people whose anxiety is such that a lifelong dependency on Valium is preferable to any alternative. He believes it is from patients themselves rather than doctors that a proper mistrust of too easy a use of these drugs will come as their powerful properties of dependency become better known. "Even then," he says, "we are left with an enormous number of people who are dependent, who need to withdraw, who must have the right medical help, and for whom at present there is no provision, no money and very little understanding."

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES DIARY

Winner's triumph

When the Alliance discovered that the new constituency of Windsor and Maidenhead takes in Eton College, they applied, without much hope, to speak to the pupils there. To their amazement they have been accepted and the candidate, Paul Winner, is to address a meeting of senior masters and boys tomorrow. This is a rare privilege, for the college asks few speakers; true, they had one the other week, but his name was Alexander Solzhenitsyn. I expect the other parties feel they have missed a trick in not approaching the college, since Winner's talk is making headline news in the local press and radio station.

Sea of arms

A new starring role for the deputy leader of the Labour Party aboard the Conservative campaign bus between Bristol and Cardiff is that of Hamlet. Yesterday Healey was transformed, at a stroke, by Sir Ronald Millar, Thatcher's speech writer, who declaimed the following soliloquy, entitled *Polaris Apart*:

To be and not to be: that is the answer.
For surely 'tis not beyond the wit of man
(Though something less than nobler in the mind)
To have it both ways with the electorate?
To retain - that is to say, to have and hold -
The slings and arrows of this watery weapon,
Yet simultaneously to "phase it out"
(Over the period of a Parliament)
Unilaterally? But soft! Is't credible?
Credibility: ay, there's the rub.
The rest is silence.

Blues and Royals

Mrs Thatcher's love of martial music is being stretched to the utmost. She has been woken early on several mornings recently by the sound of regimental bands practising. Beating Retreat on Horse Guards Parade. She is an early waker, but 5.30 am is pushing it a little. I expect she would mind less were it not for the fact that military ceremony has already caused her one problem this campaign: if she is victorious at the polls tomorrow, the PM's proposed government changes will need the Queen's Assent but, as David Butler has pointed out, Her Majesty will be preoccupied with a little affair called Trooping the Colour.

Even if the Alliance is overhauling Labour, the position seems less healthy for the Gang itself. Esal, the bookmakers, are offering 100-1 against all four members being returned to Parliament.

Sincerest form...

I thought for a moment that *The Guardian* was ignoring us, so little were we mentioned in that paper's daily round-ups of Fleet Street's election coverage. However, I noticed in yesterday's edition that they have more than redressed the balance by lifting, lock, stock and boundary, the new improved constituency guide, which our design and map departments so effectively contrived. I have to tell *The Guardian* that, while such full-page advertisements are always welcome, they reproduced our tiny error in the numbering system.

Socialist change

Whatever businesses are going to the wall in Thatcherite Britain, *New Socialist* is not one of them. The Labour Party's "intellectual" bi-monthly has hit such prosperous times that it plans to go monthly, probably from September. But the magazine's success is posing a problem for the editor, James Curran, *Times* columnist (see far right) and senior lecturer at the Polytechnic of Central London. His editorial activities have not endeared him to the rather touchy policy administration, and the relaunched posed a stark choice for him: either become a full-time editor or return to being a full-time policy lecturer. He has chosen the latter, leaving the chair empty for another committed Labour Party journalist. If I had to name a likely successor, I would go for one of the original candidates, Stuart Weir, at present an assistant editor of *New Society*.

The *Harwards Heath Conservatives' poster*, "Give Labour an inch and we may end up with a Foot," has brought this scrawled rejoinder on a hoarding: "Without a roof, who needs a Thatcher?"

Unsung

The obituaries missed one small but significant piece of information in their tributes to the conductor Sir Anthony Lewis, who died on Sunday. None mentioned that he conducted Joan Sutherland's first recording sessions in 1958, when she sang Handel's dramatic oratorio *Esther*. His encouragement and her success on that occasion were of considerable importance in the development of her early career.

Friends of the Earth have news for the pollsters: the Tories are trailing dismally and have no hope of catching the Alliance. Admittedly this is based on a rather sectional canvassing operation, in which FoE assessed one in five of election candidates on their "environmental acceptability". Successful respondents received this special seal of approval. As expected, the Ecology Party scored 100 per cent, Labour 97 the Alliance 86. The Tory returns were "statistically insignificant".

PHS

Thatcher pulls it off... this time

by David Watt

When this election campaign started the fashionable view was that "the issue is Mrs Thatcher". This was wrong. The time of Mrs Thatcher as an issue will inevitably come, perhaps in 18 months, perhaps in two or three years, when her popularity - already, in my opinion, past its zenith - becomes inadequate to cope with some major crisis and when her personality becomes a liability instead of an asset.

The issue in this election has been the Labour Party, which has been measured first of all as a more plausible government than the Conservatives, and, when it evidently failed to deliver the first week of the campaign, as a more plausible opposition than the Alliance. If tomorrow's vote shows that Labour has failed the second test as well as the first, that will not be the end of the story, of course. Thanks to the electoral system (whose anomalies, incidentally, are going to be more outrageously exposed by this election than ever before) it is inconceivable that the Alliance will become the second largest grouping in the House of Commons on any realistic estimate of its popular vote.

A new Labour leadership - a new generation of leaders for that matter - may therefore be able in the course of a four or five year parliament to put together a quite new left-of-centre coalition that has vitality, credibility and a coherent constituency of interests behind it. Both the Democrats and the Republicans in America have done that at various times since the Civil War, and there is nothing intrinsically hopeless about such a task in Britain. Mrs Thatcher herself implied this the other day when she said that "the Labour Party will not die; it will metamorphose".

Nevertheless this campaign has demonstrated more clearly than ever before that a decade's progressive process of decay has now affected the higher faculties of the Labour Party and paralysis is so far advanced that Labour must either find a miracle cure in the next four years or it will probably cease to be the main opposition party in this country.

It is tempting, naturally, to put the current failure down to Mr Foot's shambolic, unstuck appearance, or Mr Healey's apologetic gaffes (or going back a bit further), to the militant controversy and the amazing idiocies contained in some perfectly sensible policies in the Labour platform. But one has to ask how these things have come about.

First came the blurring of the boundaries of what used to be called the working class. Then that working class gradually ceased to feel automatic loyalty to Labour as the

She has never had to spell out her future policies, which are shrouded in obscurity

engine of social and financial advancement. There followed boredom at constituency level, sclerosis in the trade union movement and frustration in Parliament. The activists took over the grass roots, the ostriches took over at Westminster.

Power has been the name of the Labour Party's game for the last decade - a power struggle within the party and the enjoyment of government for its own sake by its leaders. No one has been able or has even tried to redefine national goals

for a progressive party in terms that a changing class constituency can feel relevant. This is what is losing Labour the election.

This does not mean that the vote for Mrs Thatcher has been an entirely negative one. On the contrary, she has fought a nearly flawless campaign. But it is the business of oppositions to force mistakes at election time. To put it bluntly, Mrs Thatcher has been allowed to get away with it. She has never been obliged to spell out her own policies for the future, which still remain shrouded in obscurity, and, above all, she has never been thrown on to the defensive (except momentarily by Sir Robin Day) about unemployment, Labour, the party of union militancy and profligate inefficiency, has been in no position to put the questions.

The result of this was charted vividly in the Harris Opinion Poll in *The Observer* last Sunday. It appears from this that more people in the country believe Labour's policies would reduce unemployment than believe Conservative policies would. More voters, over all, even believed that Labour would be better for their kind of person than the Conservatives. But more have come to the conclusion that the Conservatives would govern "for the good of the country".

There is no way of interpreting these figures other than as an indication that Labour's campaign has completely failed. The majority of the British people evidently believe that unemployment is good for us, or is at worst a visitation upon us for past sins. Once this self-flagellating mood prevails, the stage is set for the grand entrance of Mrs Thatcher and her "strength through suffering, hope through horror"

banner. And when these slogans are accepted, normal assumptions go out of the window and a weird, Alice in Wonderland logic takes their place. Every fresh person thrown out of work becomes a new gauge of optimism and every Labour cry of outrage or despair is, as it were, hijacked instantly to support the Conservative case.

I wrote three weeks ago that the British voters had got their answers more or less "right" since the war, and the question is whether this is one of their "off" years. The humiliation of the old Labour Party can plausibly be said to be the electorate's historic task this time, and since our present constitutional arrangements will not allow this to

The trick will be to ensure the Alliance take up the torch of moderate opposition

be achieved at this stage without a sizeable Conservative majority, even those who do not like Mrs Thatcher and her masochist triumphalism may well regard her victory as a price worth paying.

The trick, however, will be to ensure in the process the preservation of enough of the Alliance party to allow them to consolidate during the next parliament and to take over the torch of moderate opposition if a new Labour Party finally fails to pick it up. This requires the miraculously fine tuning of a very coarse system, but I shall not be surprised on Friday morning to discover that in their wonderful and mysterious way the voters have done it again.

Paul Barry on the public inquiry that may become another flying circus



AGAINST: Protesters such as Connie Hunt, above, fear that what starts as a small airstrip may turn into a giant airport

Should the next airport land in the middle of London?

At 10 o'clock this morning, battle commences in what could become an ugly fight to build London's third airport. But the scene is not Standed, where a public inquiry has already been in progress for many months. This airport would be right in the heart of London - to be precise on the site of the now-closed Royal Albert Docks.

The public inquiry that starts today is expected to last 10 weeks. On one side will be the construction company John Mowlem, which wants to build the airport; Brynmor Airways, a small Plymouth airline which would run it jointly with Mowlem, and the London Docklands Development Corporation (LDDC) which makes no secret of its support for the airport proposal. On the other will be a vociferous bunch of local residents backed by the Labour-controlled Greater London Council and Newham Borough Council.

The inquiry may mark only the start of the battle. Mrs Connie Hunt, leader of Campaign Against the Airport, says: "If the inquiry gives the airport the go-ahead we'll do everything we can to sabotage it. We'll sit in the way of the workmen, we'll even camp on the runway. No way are we going to have an airport here."

Approval for an airport bang in the middle of London might appear to be as likely as a landslide victory for the Labour Party tomorrow, but this airport has a strong chance of winning through. First, an opinion poll taken in April for Newham Borough Council shows that twice as many locals are in favour of the airport as are against it. Second, it has the backing of the local planning authority, the LDDC, and, implicitly, the Tory Government, which created the LDDC to revitalize the area. Third, this is an airport with a difference, it is a Stolport.

In layman's terms, Stolport means that the airport will be using planes that take off and land steeply, thus spreading their noise over a small area. The would-be airport operators, Mowlem and Brynmor Airways, plan to use Canadian-built Dash 7 aircraft, which are already operating at Stolports in Toronto and Ottawa. These planes are particularly quiet, as even opponents of the docklands airport admit.

An airport in docklands would thus be nothing like Heathrow where the noise stretches about 200 miles from north to south and 30 miles from east to west. In docklands, the noise area would be only two miles long by 600 yards wide and, in addition, peak noise

levels would be far lower. By the Government's scale of measurement, they will not even constitute a "moderate noise nuisance" to local residents.

Yet any noise is bad enough according to the Campaign Against the Airport. Members fear the operators will use aircraft noisier than the Dash 7 and that the airport will be such a success that it will be used far more than the applicants now say.

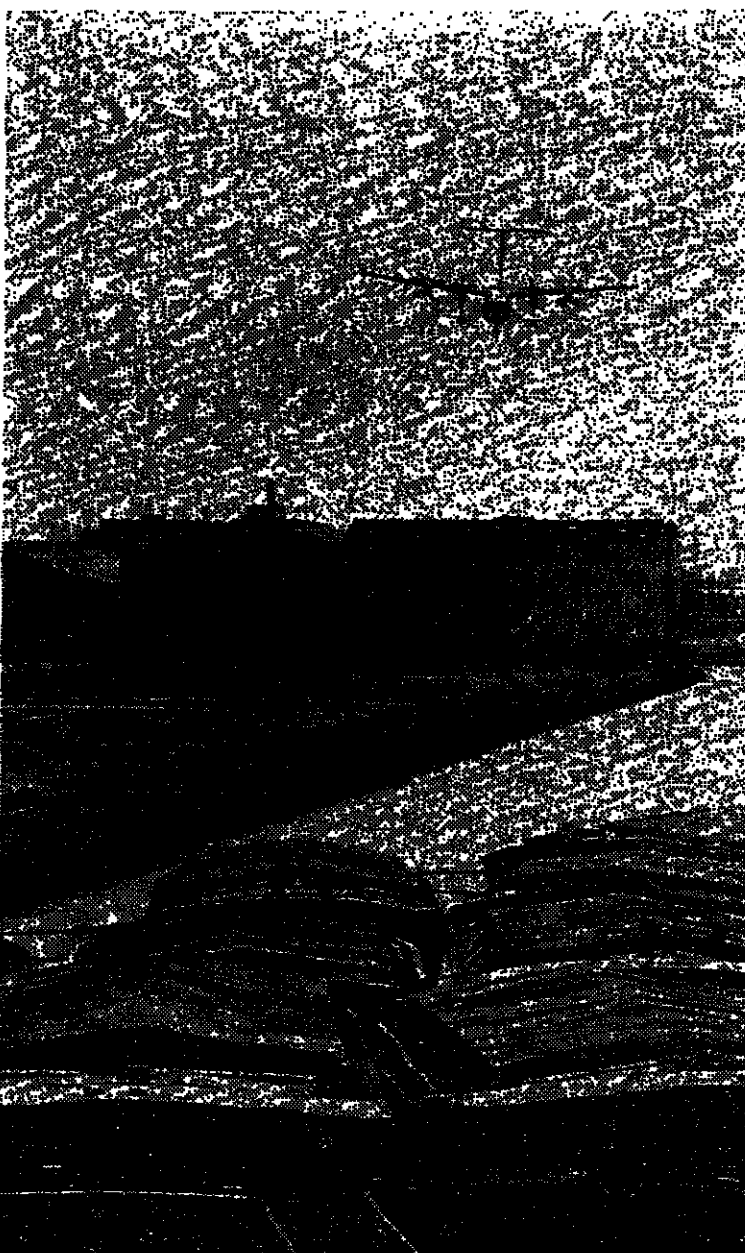
In reply, Mowlem and Brynmor state that they are quite happy to accept restrictions on the airport's use by, for example, limiting aircraft movements to one every 10 minutes (as against one a minute at Heathrow) and agreeing not to use planes noisier than the Dash 7. But their opponents believe that commercial pressure would lead to such promises being broken.

There is one point on which protesters and proponents agree: the airport is likely to be a great commercial success. The plans envisage that it would ultimately carry one million passengers a year on short-haul routes in Britain and Europe. Mowlem and Brynmor have already made applications to fly routes to Manchester, Plymouth and the Channel Islands in Britain, plus Paris, Brussels, Rotterdam, Amsterdam and Frankfurt. They are also considering other British cities.

On routes like these they would reckon to offer time savings of around 30 per cent for the business traveller. To anyone based in the City of London the advantages are obvious: no more fighting through rush-hour traffic for an hour or more to get to Heathrow. And the



FOR: Bill Bryce, chairman of Brynmor Airways, says the scheme could be the best thing ever to happen to the disused docks



TOUCHDOWN: Dash 7 planes like this one, shown landing on the site last year, are quiet enough to be operated in cities, say the airport's backers

Stolport's operators hope to add another one reduced waiting time by using buses as mobile check-ins. These "stolmobiles" are already used with great success in Ottawa and Toronto.

The protesters fear that an airport with these advantages would prove so popular that there would be great pressure to expand - that approval of the wedge to a huge airport on their doorstep. The applicants' answer to this is that the small size of the site, effectively on a concrete pier between two existing docks, is a guarantee that the airport could never carry more than a million passengers a year.

The Stolport proponents promise jobs - some 750 to run the airlines, plus support services like catering, and unquantified number of spin-off jobs brought by the catalytic effect it will have in attracting industry. "Airports are great creators of jobs," says Philip Beck, chairman of Mowlem. "You only have to look at Gatwick and Heathrow to see that."

Bill Bryce of Brynmor adds: "This could be the best thing that ever happened to dockland."

But the Campaign is still unconvinced, particularly by one report from consultants hired by the LDDC, that the Stolport will create 5,000 jobs in the area. Mrs Hunt says: "Businessmen won't spend any money here. They'll get off the plane and get straight on the bus to the City."

In fact, the Stolport will destroy jobs. There are 900 people working on the site who will lose their jobs if this airport goes ahead because they'll have to demolish the buildings they're working in.

The opposition is a shambles," Bill Bryce says. "We've given them 12 months' notice of our plans and they're still crying for more time. I don't believe there is one valid objection that could prevent this from going ahead."

Perhaps not, but Connie Hunt would hardly agree. "This airport is just for the business people. It will do nothing for dockland. The opposition has snowballed. If this decision goes against us, don't think you've heard the end of it. That will be the beginning."

Both Mowlem and Brynmor believe their airport plan will be approved. If they didn't, Mowlem says, they would not now be embarking on an expensive process of putting their case to a public inquiry.

The opposition is a shambles," Bill Bryce says. "We've given them 12 months' notice of our plans and they're still crying for more time. I don't believe there is one valid objection that could prevent this from going ahead."

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The true way to break the mould

JUNE 24 '83

Jock
Bruce-Gardyne



I suppose it's because for the first time in 20 years I have not been personally in the race, but it does seem to have dragged on a bit. Part of the trouble, obviously, has been that it has always looked like a one-horse affair. But what with the Saatchis' knocking copy, and Labour's descent into parrot-like expletives, and the preoccupation of both the main opposition groups with the delicate task of placing daggers between their own respective leaders' shoulder blades, it has hardly been a vintage campaign, has it?

Now, however, is the moment to stand up and be counted. So I shall say why I shall be voting Tory (apart from the fact that it would presumably rather spoil the symmetry of this series if I were to announce an intention to do otherwise). I shan't be voting Tory first and foremost because I believe that Labour's programme of detachment from our final means of self-defence, withdrawal from the European Community into penurious isolation and indulgence in Latin American style hyper-inflation is far, far too hazardous to permit the luxury of doing anything else - though I do. I shan't be voting Tory because the determination of the Lib-Lab Alliance to plunge us into another head-on confrontation with the union leadership by attempting yet again to put collective bargaining in the freezer is plain suicidal - though it is.

Nor shall I be voting Tory first and foremost because I believe that the outgoing administration has been the first to give this country a sense of confidence in its destiny for many a long year, or because it has been the first for 20 years to attend to the cure of the root causes of the inflation malignancy. Having been a witness to the remarkable transformation which de Gaulle achieved in the performance of the French nation 30 years ago by giving back to the French their confidence, I certainly do not underestimate the importance of the first of these considerations for a Tory vote. And having had a walk-on part in the application of the inflation cure these last 18 months I naturally attach a lot of weight to its continuance.

But in the end what counts, I think, is not what a party has performed in office, or what it promises to do in future, so much as what it enables the rest of us to do. Mrs Thatcher's real achievement, in my book, is that she has weaned us

from the fatuous illusion that government can somehow substitute for individual performance.

My generation grew up in an environment in which governments, regardless of party label, claimed to be able by their comparatively superior wisdom to guarantee full employment and a more swiftly growing economy. Because we cannot hope to be a self-sufficient nation, they were always doomed to failure. Competitiveness in international trade is not in the gift of gentlemen in Whitehall. So we lost markets. And as successive administrations attempted to compensate for lost competitiveness by debasement of the currency, inflation also gathered momentum.

Then, in a forlorn attempt to catch up on inflation, they tried to usurp the role of management in fixing prices and dividends, negotiating wages, and allocating investment. Since they never had, and - thank God - never would obtain a mandate for an east European-style command economy, it could only end in tears.

Mrs Thatcher has truly "broken the mould". She has returned to management the responsibility to manage. She has restored to the shopfloor the right to insist that those who negotiate on its behalf take cognisance of the consequences of their actions for employment. It has been a painful process - shedding comforting illusions is always going to be that but it has been truly indispensable.

There is still a long way to go. The convention that the public sector exists for the benefit of those who work in it is still too deeply engrained. The next administration will need ministers who see themselves as answerable to the consumer rather than their departmental empire-builders. For only as we shrink the sumptuary expenditures of state can we restore the vitality of the wealth creators and the market venturers. There is no guarantee that the next Tory administration will complete the cure. But that any other would abandon it is a cast-iron certainty. That is the clinching argument for me.

The author, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, was Conservative MP for Kesteven. He is not seeking re-election.

James Curran

Freedom for youth - to be unemployed

David Murray usually gets up around 11 o'clock in the morning, and at midday wanders down to the amusement arcade at the centre of Sheffield. In the afternoon, he sometimes calls at his girl friend's workplace for a chat. His favourite haunt in the evenings is a youth club, the Spring Street Project.

Aged 22, he has completed five YOI schemes and wants a proper job. But the last of many he has applied for - as a general labourer and more than 200 applicants and he did not get it. The experience of not getting anywhere, not doing anything, being rejected, has left a mark that his skinhead hairstyle and wary manner only partly conceal. Being out of work in a Thatcherite climate of opinion implies personal shortcomings - an inability to rise to the occasion and mount your bike to meet Mr Tebbit's garden gates or, simply and more naively, a lack of marketable talent. "Even my brother who was really brainy at school," said David defensively, "is in part-time work". Not having your own pay packet brings with it humiliations - "My girlfriend buys all my clothes", he told me awkwardly.

There are now 1,226,000 people under 25 who are out of work. Their prospects of finding regular work are, in most cases, bleak if Margaret Thatcher is re-elected. The foreboding, the Cambridge Economic Policy Group, predict that the total number of jobs will rise to between 3.7 and 4.2 million by 1988, and will continue to five million by the early 1990s, if government policies remain unchanged.

The reality of what is happening to young people in Britain is in contrast to the banner proclaiming "Britain's Youth - Strong and Free" that adorned the Young Conservatives rally on Sunday. But then, Thatcherism is a military force that cuts across and displaces what is happening in the real world, supplanting it with spurious images that feed off nationalism and traditional morality.

"Today has put the Great back in Britain", declared Margaret Thatcher when an ill-led, bedraggled conscript army surrendered at Fort Stanley. The same resolute spirit, we are led to believe, can also restore the British economy.

All that is needed, the Good Housekeeper tells us, is for us to mend our ways and accept the tough medicine that is our (though she really means their) due. We must stop living off borrowed time, and we must say firmly "no" to the spendthrift, profligate plans in Labour's manifest, in her opinion "the most terrifying extreme manifesto to be produced in 50 years".

Ironically, as those of you who have read Labour's manifesto will know, it is inspired by Keynes rather

than Marx. Its aim is to make the mixed economy work rather than to replace it. And its strategy for doing this is one that has succeeded in maintaining near-full employment in Britain for 40 years. Where the same demand management has been practised successfully abroad, in Sweden, Norway and Austria, unemployment is still less than a quarter of what it is here and inflation is in single figures.

Labour's programme will get the economy moving by increasing public spending and investment in a way that goes mainly into industry and jobs. A national investment bank will provide long-term loans for industry, channelling profits from North Sea oil and the under-used resources of pension funds (by guaranteeing an attractive rate of return, not by coercion). Exchange rate controls will be restored to make available for domestic investment capital that is currently hoovering abroad at a rate of £10,000m a year.

And import quotas and tariffs will be introduced, if necessary, to prevent expansion from being halted by an unsustainable trade deficit. These will be introduced not as protectionist devices with which to beggar our neighbours but as a means of maintaining a growth of domestic demand which it is in the interests of our competitors to sustain.

Far from being profligate, Labour's plans entail an increase of public spending from £8,000m to £14,000m. This would increase national income to about 4½ per cent - the average level of industrial countries and lower than the level of the Thatcher government's first two years in office.

Allegations that Labour's plans would lead to runaway inflation are equally misplaced. They include measures to cut costs, such as the abolition of the national insurance surcharge and reduction of VAT; and the establishment of price controls to prevent major companies from exploiting an expanding market by excessively hiking up prices. Its national economic assessment machinery represents a sophisticated and sensible way of balancing social consent for the allocation of resources in all forms including, crucially, incomes. This is infinitely preferable to allocating the surplus generated by growth than the restraint induced by mass unemployment.

If Keynes were alive today to read Labour's moderate, Keynesian programme I have no doubt that he would vote for it with the same passionate conviction that he devoted to routing the "good housekeepers" of the past.

The author is Editor of *New Socialist*.



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ALL THEIR TOMORROWS

Before its late surge in the closing days of the campaign the Alliance election strategy had suffered from a number of drawbacks. First of all its starting position contrasted bleakly with the euphoric results of Crosby, Croydon and Bermondsey (even Hillhead was won on a declining trend). Secondly the Alliance phenomenon has always been something of a pollster's dream. It owes its existence to three or four aberrant by-elections while the great majority of Labour defectors in the Commons felt that it would be more prudent to sit tight and not put their change of allegiance to the test of their original electors. The latest polling, incidentally, suggests that a majority of their constituents think that they were wrong to do so.

Thirdly the SDP's origins, and the Liberal revival, derived their spectacular successes more from the apparent failure of the two parties - Thatcherism of the right, Stalinism of the left - than any flowering of a creative new blend of policy in the centre. As Professor Ralph Dahrendorf had earlier remarked rather unkindly of the policies of social democracy: "They promise a better yesterday". The Alliance programme is a worthy compilation of much that has been tried, half-tried or at least seriously considered over the last political generation. But the voters apparently have less idea of these policies than those of the two main parties.

There are more difficulties than that about the policies which the Alliance has put before the electorate. The manifesto is described as a programme for Government. It has not been tested much on the anvil of election argument, partly because the two large parties have been more concerned with each other until the polls suggested they should insure against third party risk. Yet the gap between the nuclear philosophies of the two parts of the Alliance is almost as wide as that between left and right in the Labour Party. Yesterday, for the first time, that showed.

A programme for government cannot afford to be so imprecise and unresolved on that most important and dangerous of all issues. But there are other areas of incoherence or contradiction. The Alliance's income policy is

untried, elaborate and a product of laboratory politics rather than the real rough and tumble world of public sector bargaining and the play of the private sector labour market. Council house sales are given with one hand and taken away with the other. Taxation policy, though creditable, is hardly a programme for any Government in the next parliament, given the unreasonableness of the Inland Revenue service for such major change. Above all, too there has been the difficulty of a dual leadership and the intra-party tension which that has created.

However, even if the manifesto has promised a programme for government with a prime minister designate to go with it, it is not fair to judge the Alliance campaign solely on its credibility as an alternative government, since that was never very likely. The movement of opinion polls now at least seems to show that it should be assessed on its merits as an alternative opposition. In that case, at last the Alliance has been brought face to face with its real opportunity. It was always dangerous to have its head turned by so much previous statistical volatility in the opinion polls - or even in by-election successes - into believing that the Alliance was ready to succeed the Conservatives as the next Government. Its only hope, historically, was to emerge from a bitter struggle with the Labour Party as the more viable governmental party of the left.

Today's position, moreover, has been brought about by two things which owe nothing to the behaviour of Alliance leaders, even in campaigning. The Alliance figure in the polls remained fairly static for the first two weeks until Labour's troubles broke and the Conservatives appeared to be impregnable. Only then, in the context of a likely Tory landslide and the humiliation of a dispirited Labour Party did the Alliance find its true purpose. That actually offers a much better long-term prospect of consolidation as the opposition grouping on the left than ever a hung parliament would. A hung parliament would presume a defeated but structurally undented Labour Party which would therefore retain much greater governability about it than a small Alliance component hold-

ing the balance between the two main parties.

The Alliance set out to break the mould of British politics. There were always two ways for that to happen. One was for the Alliance to benefit from a hung parliament by using its bargaining position to extract some variant of proportional voting as the price of support to any larger grouping hoping to form a government. That was always the lesser probability, not least because it would have led to permanent coalition politics in Britain. That is not a system which is likely to commend itself to a policy reared on and at home with the two party system, particularly when that system has shown this century that it can satisfactorily accommodate the replacement of one of those parties by a new one.

The other way was for the Alliance to profit from a Tory landslide, reducing the Labour Party to a shadow of its former self. That may in turn induce the Trade Union movement to reconsider the merits of maintaining its link with a historic, though now ineffective, parliamentary protegee. In that the Alliance starts with a built-in disadvantage. It is not just that the gang of four, and their co-defectors, have fought that battle once already within the Labour Party and lost it. Nor is it just that their Liberal allies do not give the impression of being a party which is really serious about government. There seems to be a general and unhealthy obsession with opinion polls rather than with the stuff of politics.

Beyond that, this new grouping in British politics has yet to establish a coalition of forces which represents something definite in British society. There is no obvious social base. There is no sense of great corporations in the wings. The Alliance leaders make a virtue of this freedom from such associations, but from the point of view of power it is a political weakness. A political sapling with such shallow roots will find it hard to withstand the wind of history when it blows, and in politics it often blows like a hurricane. In this campaign the Alliance has come far to discard the atmosphere of "a better yesterday". But it may have to face many more tomorrows on its way to power.

WAR OF WORDS OF WAR

It is exceedingly provoking for Labour candidates in this campaign that the apparently impregnable ascendancy of the Prime Minister should be traceable to a war of which many of them for one reason or another disapproved. The Conservatives have made an electrifying virtue of abstaining from what they had no need to do - thrust that chapter in the life of the government and nation in front of the electorate. The Falklands expedition is there, a large political fact, fresh in the memory, working like leaven in the Tory loaf. The only way, in fact, in which the Conservatives might have thrown away some of that advantage was by making an exhibition of it. Some of the party's candidates have been making more of it in their constituency campaigns than others, but no Conservative campaigner with access to a nation-wide public address system has sought to stir those anyway active memories.

The war itself was equally plainly out of bounds to the opposition parties. There might have been something to be made, though little has been made, of future policy towards

the islands and towards Argentina; but the campaign itself, as ground from which to assault the Government or the Prime Minister in particular, was as mine-swept as the environs of Stanley after liberation.

The Alliance has been scrupulously prudent. So was Labour until Mr Kinnock and Mr Healey blundered in. Mr Kinnock's first reference was to the sinking of the Belgrano. That was in reasonably measured terms and detonated no explosion. But as an election thrust it was worse than useless. There are sharp questions to be answered about that episode, but they are not the sort that get an answer on the hustings. As it was, his sally merely reminded people of the naval action in the South Atlantic, a general cause of pride; and as for the Belgrano: she was at sea, was she not, hostilities had opened, she was escorted, she was a potential threat to the seaborne expeditionary force... for most people, including most of those who vote Mr Kinnock might hope to attract, that is reason enough for the sinking, no matter about speculation that another course might have

averted a war that was briefly fought and brilliantly won.

Mr Healey's "she gloried in slaughter" and Mr Kinnock's "guts on the ground" are cries of exasperation of a different order, a wish to wound. Neither Mr Healey's half withdrawal nor Mr Kinnock's laboured explanation to the relatives of the dead that he meant no offence to them, exclusively to Mrs Thatcher, can efface the effect of their exuberance. And the effect is to contribute to the catalogue of self-inflicted injuries that have disabled the Labour Party for this election.

For most British people then and even more in retrospect, once the Falklands were seized by Argentina it was necessary to fight for their recovery; the expedition brought glory on the armed services and credit on the Government that mounted it; the whole episode, suffused by victory, reflected well on Britain in resolution and execution. That national experience as much as anything has put the Prime Minister beyond the reach of her political adversaries in this election, and it persists to smother those who would wound her on account of it.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE SHADOWS

Like the rest of Whitehall, the secret services have a general election drill. The Secret Intelligence Service, MI6, prepares analyses of world trouble spots ready to brief new ministers. The Director-General of the Security Service, MI5, dusts off his files on politicians whom the victorious party leader might wish to appoint to ministerial posts. A fast, discreet, unacknowledged system exists for warning the Prime Minister of any compromising material held by MI5 on MPs or peers which might affect their fitness for office.

The guardians of national security will remember the 1983 general election for another reason. For the first time since the secret services were founded in the Edwardian era they have become an issue between the parties. The Labour manifesto pledges a reform in the shape of a Security Act to regulate the clandestine agencies and a parliamentary select committee to monitor them. Behind the single paragraph on the security services in the party's programme lies an 80-page report published by Labour's National Executive

entitled *Freedom and the Security Services*.

The document is the object of some private scorn among the Whitehall intelligence community. They believe it is based on a blend of gossip, half-truth and misrepresentation; that it ignores the existing oversight system operated on behalf of the Prime Minister by the security and intelligence secretariat of the Cabinet Office; not to mention the effect such a reform would have on Britain's allies and the degree to which it would weaken defences against Soviet penetration.

Yet the intelligence community is not monolithic in its view of the practicability or desirability of change in the accountability of their secret world. The gatherers, the men of MI5, MI6 and the Government Communications Headquarters, rest their case on the traditional maxim that to remain effective and secure the secret services must remain just that, secret. They represent the party of no change under any circumstances. The middlemen, the intelligence assessors co-ordinators and

budget controllers, mainly located in the Cabinet Office, tend to err on the side of caution and, if pressed, would side with the gatherers. But the customers, senior officials in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the Home Office, the Ministry of Defence, take a more reformist line.

They could live with an element of Parliamentary oversight, though not in the form proposed by Labour. They recommend a compromise - a select committee of Privy Counsellors modelled on the Franks team which investigated the origins of the Falklands War. Would it not be prudent for a Conservative administration devoted to the maintenance of national security, preferably on the foundation of bipartisanship between the parties, to construct a system of scrutiny which would command the support of all but a few on the hard left? Conservative rule, unlike the need for security and intelligence, will not be perpetual. The issue is too serious to be left at the mercy of faction.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Last-minute reflections on general election issues

From Mr Martin Hassack

Sir, What would our reaction be here in Britain if, prior to an address at a rally in Moscow by Mr Andropov, attended by 25,000 "foot-stamping, flag-waving, horn blowing" (report, June 6) young communists, one of the entertainers remarked: "Let's bomb Britain" and this display was shown nationally on the Soviet Union television network?

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN HASSECK,
104 Holders Hill Road, NW4,
June 6.

From Mr A. R. Isserlis

Sir, To Baroness Sharp's affectionate admirers there was delicious irony in her letter on June 3. She first rebuked Mrs Thatcher for an alleged tendency to be dictatorial. And then in effect she commended as non-dictatorial an Alliance led by Mrs Williams who sought to force all schools into one mould irrespective of official advice or local or parental wishes; Dr Owen (who was a petulant hectorer both in the NHS and in the Foreign Office); Mr Jenkins (a successful proponent of state dictatorship on racial grounds over the freedom of employers to hire or not hire whom they choose); and Mr Steele (an as yet unsuccessful proponent of state dictatorship over the freedom of employers to pay their workforce what the market justifies).

In fact, if these particular power-seekers are any guide, an Alliance or Alliance-influenced government would be just as dictatorial as a Labour one - though perhaps initially, like the Mensheviks, in a more genteelly futile way. Conservatives by contrast seek to reduce the areas that any government has power to be dictatorial about.

Our first woman Prime Minister does indeed have a reputation for being firm and sometimes abrasive. So did our first woman permanent secretary. But would that have been held against them if they had been men?

Yours faithfully,
A. R. ISSERLIS,
Rose and Crown Cottage,
Upton,
Burford,
Oxfordshire,
June 6.

From Mr C. L. Fox

Sir, Lady Sharp (June 3) is mistaken. The parliamentary democracy we have had since the last war is not the sort of government that we, or our ancestors, fought for. We have had in those years a succession of politicians who have been far too ready to let power pass to those without responsibility, namely the civil servants and the Civil Service. (I do not expect Lady Sharp to agree as regards the latter.) Such manoeuvres, to one of my age, are reminiscent of those who brought France to her knees in 1940.

We now have a prime minister who has the ability, the courage, and the drive to attempt to change all that: one moreover who has the habit, rare in post-1945 Westminster, of placing her country before her party or herself. It would seem that the electorate - or a goodly part of it - has at last realized her quality.

Yours sincerely,
C. L. FOX,
Heathcote,
The Rectory,
Finschamstead,
Berkshire.

Housing needs

From the General Secretary of the Labour Party

Sir, Your leader, "House-proud politics" (May 30), fails to understand Labour's housing policies.

We believe in catering for the needs of those who want or need to rent and those who want to own. Promotion of one tenure at the expense of another, as is being done through compulsory sales, doubling rents and large discounts, is irresponsible. It is not only the badly housed, the homeless and young couples who suffer, but those who buy who cannot really afford the repayments or the cost of repairs.

Our housing policies seek to break down the rigid and socially disfiguring divide between tenures. The public rented and owner-occupied sectors should co-exist on a basis of equal social esteem. Equal treatment will make it much easier for households to move between tenures as their needs and preferences change.

A key element to achieving equality of esteem is to provide the right quantity and quality of housing. Our proposals to boost housebuilding will help begin to overcome the shortage and deteriorating quality of the stock to which your report on Shelter's fears draws attention.

Military degrees

From Professor Alan James

Sir, It would be unfortunate if your report (June 3) of the Duke of Edinburgh's speech calling for degrees in military science gave the impression that the subject is impressionable in Britain's universities and polytechnics. Degrees in international relations and war studies at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels are now offered by a number of institutions and most of the topics mentioned by the Duke as appropriate for a military degree are already taught.

Moreover, those taking such courses often include serving officers. Experience at my own university, Keele, suggests that they not only enjoy the academic study of the international and military scenes but go back to the Services feeling much better fitted for their jobs.

However, it is certainly the case that much more could be done in this area and it would seem wise to build on the strengths which already exist in our educational system. Some kind of formal recognition

From Professor Peter Self

Sir, Thinking about this election, the analogy with the 1930s is all too close. The dominant paradigm, to which Mrs Thatcher fully subscribes, is one of sacrificing everything else in the cause of more effective international economic and military competition. Since most other governments are doing the same (although not always so ruthlessly) the likely result under present world conditions will be the mutual export of unemployment and economic disruption, followed by war, which may or may not be terminal.

If and when the dust clears we shall discover the values now neglected; the new importance of environmental conservation, the desirability of controlling technology for the sake of more stability and humanism, the value of local community life and local democracy, the imperative of being generous to the unfortunate, and that other imperative of taking risks for the cause of peace, not the chimera of superior destructive power.

Among the Thatcherites there seems only an unimaginative contempt for these values. On the left there is still too little realization of the policies and sacrifices which these values will entail, yet at least there is some glimpse of the way to a saner future.

Yours etc,

PETER SELF,
Research School of Social Sciences,
The Australian National University,
Box 4, PO Canberra, ACT,
Australia, 2600,
June 1.

From Mr Peter J. Lord Smith

Sir, It is surely significant that on Sunday 13,000-20,000 attended the People's March for Jobs, whilst nearly 20 times that number went to Standed Airport to see the space shuttle, Enterprise.

Yours truly,

PETER J. LORD SMITH,
7 Finchcroft Lane,
Prestbury,
Cheltenham Spa,
Gloucestershire,
June 6.

From Mr George Scates

Sir, Mr Foot, Mr Healey and others rightly claim that a Labour government put 3½ million back to work during its term of office immediately after World War Two. They add: "We did it once - we can do it again."

Charitable functions

From the Chairman of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations

Sir, May I return to the matter I raised with you in my letter of April 15? This is the vexed question of "political activity" by charities.

I argued then that charitable voluntary organisations should be acknowledged to have a right to contribute to debates on public policy and administration, but not to seek to influence the electoral process in favour of, or against, any person or party.

We are now hearing the end of an election campaign. This national council has been heartened by the recognition accorded to the voluntary sector by the Conservative and Labour parties and by the Alliance in their manifestos. What is less clear, however, is their attitudes

toward voluntary bodies as contributors to the formation of policies and programmes.

Our free society needs fresh ideas and original perspectives from as many different independent sources as possible; and voluntary bodies are specially well placed to contribute from their own experience in their particular fields. They have nothing to say about parties and elections. They have much to offer on problems and policies.

It is to be hoped, therefore, that whatever the political complexion of the next government, it will not merely recognise this particular role, but will also encourage it.

Yours etc,
PETER JAY, Chairman,
National Council for Voluntary Organisations,
26 Bedford Square, WCI.

From Mr Patrick Allen

Sir, In her discussion with "Mr Day" on *Panorama* recently, Mrs Thatcher appeared to be saying we do not need "dual key" for cruise because we can trust the Americans and we do not need Polaris because we can't trust someone in Central Office can sort this out.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK ALLEN,
42 Hawthorn Way,
Cambridge.

From the Reverend John Ticehurst

Sir, The North Devon District Council has just published an advertisement telling the residents of Lifton, Co. Devon, that Martin Lynton and Woolcombe (a total population in the winter of some 14,000, more than doubled in the holiday months) that the local nuclear air-raid shelter has been finished, in compliance with the 1979 Civil Defence Act.

Fewer than one in 100 of the permanent population will be able to get in, for it holds just 130 people. Those to be saved must write and say why they should be by June 10, which doesn't leave a lot of time for self-justification. Nor does it help those who may move to the area in the next 50 years or so.

I should like to think that the list of 130 will be published, together with the criteria used, when the list has been drawn up. Certainly it makes Abraham's intervention with the Almighty about Sodom (Genesis 18) seem straightforward.

I assume that those chosen will be any who can demonstrate that they can run a four-mile mile. Sadly, though, the distance from Woolcombe to Lifton is some 17 miles along narrow climbing roads. How are the new chosen people to make it to the ark?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN TICEHURST,
The Rectory,
Hugbourne Road,
Weston-super-Mare,
Avon.

From Mr William Golding

Sir, Why all this argument on what to take for holiday reading ("Saturday" May 28)? The whole question is settled for us by *The Bride's Handbook*:
Something old and something new,
Something borrowed and something blue.

Yours etcetera,
WILLIAM GOLDING,
Ebble Thatch, Bowerchalke,
Salisbury, Wiltshire,
May 29.

From Mr William Golding

Sir, The Himalayan dawn that Group Captain Edwards describes (June 3) is undoubtedly beautiful but nevertheless far shorter than those in the Arctic, where the sun may spend a fascinating two or three hours rising above the mountains.

Sunset is equally lengthy and, if one is willing to bear the hordes of midges that emerge at dusk in central Alaska, the most abiding spectacle can be witnessed of the sun dropping behind Mount McKinley (reputedly the tallest mountain in the world from top to bottom, being some 16,000ft from summit to foothills) which is visible from a distance equivalent to that between London and Sheffield.

Shades of salmon pink outline the summit until darkness falls and the "Northern Lights" begin their shimmering display of colours in the night sky.

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY BRADE,
St Catherine's College,
Oxford,
June 3.

On a clear day

From Mr Jeremy Brade

Sir, The Himalayan dawn that Group Captain Edwards describes (June 3) is undoubtedly beautiful but nevertheless far shorter than those in the Arctic, where the sun may spend a fascinating two or three hours rising above the mountains.

Sunset is equally lengthy and, if one is willing to bear the hordes of midges that emerge at dusk in central Alaska, the most abiding spectacle can be witnessed of the sun dropping behind Mount McKinley (reputedly the tallest mountain in the world from top to bottom, being some 16,000ft from summit to foothills) which is visible from a distance equivalent to that between London and Sheffield.

Shades of salmon pink outline the summit until darkness falls and the "Northern Lights" begin their shimmering display of colours in the night sky.

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY BRADE,
St Catherine's College,
Oxford,
June 3.

Whose finger on the button?

From Professor Margaret Gowing, FBA

Sir, Sir William Dickson refers (June 2) to the "agreement reached between Mr Atlee and President Truman in 1951" as the key agreement on control of the use of American nuclear weapons for United Kingdom bases. It was not.

Truman did assure Atlee in December, 1950, that he regarded the bomb as a joint possession of the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada and that he would not authorise its use without prior consultation with the other two governments, save in extreme emergency, such as an attack on the United States which called for immediate retaliation.

This assurance provided for consultation, not consent, but was not restricted to the use of nuclear weapons from United Kingdom bases. There was no written agreement and the undertaking was not included in the communiqué of the meeting.

Meanwhile Secretary of State Dean Acheson had reminded the President that no commitment of any sort to anyone limited his duty and power under the law to authorise the use of atomic weapons if he believed it necessary in the defence of the country. The Americans would not accept a copy of the British record which included the assurance about consultation on the use of the bomb. In the last year of his life Acheson spoke admiringly of British television of Atlee's success in achieving the promise he sought and added: "We had to unachieve that".

In October, 1951, in the course of political-military talks in Washington, the British Ambassador, Sir Oliver Franks, drafted a formula saying that the use of the American air bases and facilities in the United Kingdom in an emergency "naturally remains a matter for joint decision in the light of the circumstances at the time". The United States National Security Council agreed to this and in December, 1951, the gist of the formula was given in the House of Commons by the new Prime Minister, Mr Churchill. The agreement covered only the United Kingdom bases.

It should be added that the Quebec Agreement of 1943 between the United States and the United Kingdom had included a clause, "we will not use [atomic weapons] against third parties without each other's consent". The clause was not restricted to United Kingdom bases and indeed, in accordance with it, British consent to the use of atomic bombs against Japan was duly requested and duly given.

This clause was, however, surrendered, without replacement, by the British in a new atomic agreement in January, 1948. The only person to question this surrender was the then Vice-Chief of the Air Staff, Sir William Dickson.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET GOWING,
History Faculty,
Indian Institute,
Broad Street,
Oxford,
June 3.

From Mr Patrick Allen

Sir, In her discussion with "Mr Day" on *Panorama* recently, Mrs Thatcher appeared to be saying we do not need "dual key" for cruise because we can trust the Americans and we do not need Polaris because we can't trust someone in Central Office can sort this out.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK ALLEN,
42 Hawthorn Way,
Cambridge.

From the Reverend John Ticehurst

Sir, The North Devon District Council has just published an advertisement telling the residents of Lifton, Co. Devon, that Martin Lynton and Woolcombe (a total population in the winter of some 14,000, more than doubled in the holiday months) that the local nuclear air-raid shelter has been finished, in compliance with the 1979 Civil Defence Act.

Fewer than one in 100 of the permanent population will be able to get in, for it holds just 130 people. Those to be saved must write and say why they should be by June 10, which doesn't leave a lot of time for self-justification. Nor does it help those who may move to the area in the next 50 years or so.

I should like to think that the list of 130 will be published, together with the criteria used, when the list has been drawn up. Certainly it makes Abraham's intervention with the Almighty about Sodom (Genesis 18) seem straightforward.

I assume that those chosen will be any who can demonstrate that they can run a four-mile mile. Sadly, though, the distance from Woolcombe to Lifton is some 17 miles along narrow climbing roads. How are the new chosen people to make it to the ark?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN TICEHURST,
The Rectory,
Hugbourne Road,
Weston-super-Mare,
Avon.

From Mr William Golding

Sir, Why all this argument on what to take for holiday reading ("Saturday" May 28)? The whole question is settled for us by *The Bride's Handbook*:
Something old and something new,
Something borrowed and something blue.

Yours etcetera,
WILLIAM GOLDING,
Ebble Thatch, Bowerchalke,
Salisbury, Wiltshire,
May 29.

Investment and Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 710.3 up 6.9
 FT 100s 82.56 down 0.21
 Tring Haul USM Index 170.1
 up 2.0
 Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
 Index 8475.30 down 30.82
 Hongkong: Hang Seng Index
 881.67 down 21.22
 New York: Dow Jones Industrial
 Average (latest) 1212.84
 down 0.80

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
 Sterling \$1.5720 down 50pts
 Index 86.8 down 0.2
 DM 4.0375 down 0.0125
 FF 12.1225 up 0.0825
 Yen 376.75 down 2.75
 Dollar
 Index 125.5 up 0.1
 DM 2.5860 down 15pts
 Gold
 \$400.75 down \$8.25
 NEW YORK LATEST
 Gold \$400.25
 Sterling \$1.5725

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
 Base rates
 3 month interbank 10 1/4 = 10 1/4
 Euro-currency rates:
 3 month dollar 9 1/4 = 9 1/4
 3 month DM 5 1/4 = 5 1/4
 3 month FF 14 1/4 = 14 1/4
 ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
 Export Finance Scheme IV
 Average reference rate for
 interest period May 4 to June
 7, 1983 inclusive: 10.334 per
 cent.

PRICE CHANGES

Helical Bar 33p+7p
 H. Ingram 60p+12p
 N. Simon £19.50+£3.75
 Polly Pock £17.50+£2.50
 Ldn & N.thern 91p+13p
 Cornell 125p+15p
 Lake & Elliot 19-4p
 Atlantic Res. 47p-8p
 Wicking P. 38p-4p
 Leslie 235p-20p
 Whitlock M. 26p-2p
 Milford Dks 68p-8p

TODAY

Interims: Westlands.
 Finales: N. Brown Invest.
 Bulmer and Lumb, Gt. Portland
 Estates, Hill Samuels, LCP
 Higgs, Lyntons Higgs, Pegler-
 Hattersley, TR North America
 Invest, Henry Wigfall.

NOTEBOOK

● Reed International staged
 a better than expected recovery
 in the final quarter of its last
 financial year, but for the year
 as a whole a big fall in
 overseas operating profits led to
 a 15 per cent fall in pretax
 profit. The present year has got
 off to a healthy start.
 ● Grindlays Bank, owned
 jointly by Citibank and Grind-
 lays Holdings, is again the
 subject of takeover talk.
 ● Skelchley, the dry-cleaning
 group, looks to have good
 prospects for the present year
 having closed down the textile
 division which lost £770,000 in
 the last financial year.

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BTR increases stake in Tilling

BTR bought a further 2.5 million shares in Tilling yesterday at a price of 225p ex dividend. Added to an extra 500,000 shares which it acquired late in after hours trading on Monday this takes the BTR stake up to 28.5 per cent.

It is expected to be back in the market this morning, and is prepared to buy up to the maximum 30 per cent allowed under the takeover code.

The number of acceptances received by the registrar is believed to have been high yesterday, although there is no indication of the number of shares these accounted for. The issue will be decided today, the closing date for the bid, when the leading institutional shareholders come off the fence.

● JOBS ISSUE: Half of Britain's unemployment is due to the world slump. That makes the policies decided at Williamsburg as crucial as the election. Graham Seargent asks if they will work. Page 22

● \$300m LOAN: Oman has raised a \$300m syndicated loan arranged by Gulf International Bank. The loan is for seven years at 1.5 per cent over the London Interbank Offered Rate for two years and 1/2 per cent over Libor for the duration.

● NEW CHAIRMAN: Mr John Milne will be the new chairman of Blue Circle Industries. He will combine the post with his position of group managing director. He succeeds Sir Rowland Wright.

WALL STREET

Shares fail to recover

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Stocks were mixed after failing to recover from their early declines yesterday and trading was moderate.

The Dow Jones Industrial average was down 2 1/2 points after cutting its initial drop of nearly 4 points. The transportation index was pushed to a gain of almost 6 points. Declining issues were ahead of advances.

Mr Harry Laubscher, market analyst for Faine Webber, said that it was a mixed market with the industrials down while the transports were up.

Mr Laubscher was urging a lightening-up during periods of strength. "We see a possible move to the 1,150 to 1,120 area - of the Dow Jones Industrial average - over the next month or two but the basic trend is undisturbed. There are signs that distribution and profit-taking is increasing while buying demand is increasing for the cyclical and the blue chip stocks are coming under pressure."

American Telephone & Telegraph trading at 4 1/4 up 1/4; International Business Machines 116, up 1/4; General Motors 70 1/4 up 1/4; Bethlehem Steel 24 1/4 unchanged; General Electric 36, up 1/4; Dupont 48 1/4 unchanged; Newmont Mining 566, off 1/4; Union Pacific 55 1/4 off 1/4; Exxon 33 1/4 off 1/4; Southern Pacific 9 1/4 off 1/4; and Chicago North Western 90 1/4 off 1/4.

Telephone was up 4 1/4 to 159 3/4; Texas Instruments up 1 at 169; Coloco up 4 1/4 to 64 1/4; E-Systems up 2 1/4 to 41 1/4; Shell Oil off 1 at 41; Eschschouse Electric off 1/4 at 30.

DoT moves on mystery investors

The Department of Trade yesterday launched an official investigation to unmask the mystery shareholders behind Westminster Property Group.

The London-based investment and property development group has been the subject of an unsuccessful takeover bid from Mr Jim Raper and his St Piran mining group, which owns 29 per cent.

Mr Raper has in the past drawn criticism from the Department of Trade and Takeover Panel. About two years ago, the Stock Exchange suspended the shares of St Piran and two of its quoted subsidiaries to block a takeover bid by Mr Raper's Gasco Holdings.

Westminster asked the department to investigate after its own attempts to flush out beneficial owners of share stakes came to nothing.

Last month the company passed details of a mysterious spate of share buying to the Takeover Panel. A fortnight ago a 300-page report went to the Department of Trade from Clifford Turner, the company's solicitors.

But Mr Patrick Ravenhill, the Westminster chairman, was reluctant to discuss details last night. "I don't want to discuss who owns the shares that worry us. It's a long list."

At the group's annual meeting last month Mr Ravenhill expressed concern at recent share buying, feeling it might be linked with existing shareholders and could constitute a "concert party".

Hawley yesterday bought another 5 per cent package of shares in the Miss World business run by Mr Eric Morley and his wife. The purchases, which were made through Hawley's own brokers, Capel Cure Myers, and the brokers to Miss World, Schaverien, take

the Government's privatization policy received an unexpected pre-election boost with yesterday's announcement that British Technology Group is selling its 65.7 per cent shareholding in United Medical Enterprises.

UME is one of the most attractive assets held by the National Enterprise Board, which was absorbed by BTG.

London and Northern, the building and construction company, is buying UME in a deal valuing the company at about £25m, although deferred payments could eventually raise this to more than £28m.

The sale of UME, which manages hospitals and supplies medical equipment mainly in the Middle East, is in line with

the Government's directives to BTG to sell off its equity stakes and concentrate on exploiting British technology.

Mr Brian Willott, BTG's chief executive said: "This disposal of our shareholding is the latest in a number of successful disposals to the private sector. In this case we have more than trebled the taxpayer's money."

BTG will receive £16m initially for its stake and expects more than £2m in deferred payments calculated on future profits. Its original investment was £5.7m. UME's other minority shareholders include United City Merchants, Orion Bank and Commercial Union.

UME's directors, including Mr Christopher Chataway, the

Industry costs fall: interest rate fears subside

Record consumer spending backs Government's recovery claims

Government claims that a sturdy recovery is under way and inflation well under control received some pre-election encouragement yesterday from official figures. These showed consumer spending in the shops at record levels in April, a further drop in the cost of industry's fuel and raw materials last month and only a modest increase in the prices charged for goods leaving Britain's factories.

In addition, City fears that a re-elected Conservative Government would raise interest rates to curb excessive monetary growth were calmed when the Bank of England announced that the most closely-watched money measure, sterling M3, grew by an estimated 1/2 per cent in the month to mid-May, less than half the extraordinary April surge of 1.9 per cent.

But Britain's balance of payments surplus on current account fell to £445m in the first quarter this year from £1,790m in the final quarter of 1982, despite a better performance on invisible trade than earlier estimates had suggested.

Capital outflows almost doubled to £2,400m from £1,300m, according to the Central Statistical Office, while overseas investment in stocks and shares totalled £1,600m, continuing the rise of financial assets abroad sparked off by the abolition of exchange controls four years ago.

Buoyant consumer demand election nor the trade, money supply and whole sale price figures had much effect, traders said. Most holders of sterling expect a Conservative victory and have already adjusted their positions accordingly.

As a result the trade weighted index, which measures the pound against the currencies of Britain's main trading partners, slipped by only 0.2 to 86.8. But the greater fall in gold

was the result of speculators losing confidence in the market as the uncertainty about the course of American interest rates persisted. Potential buyers were not encouraged by speculation that Portugal and the International Monetary Fund might sell gold reserves.

The market is torn between fears of inflation on the one hand and deflation on the other.

The price of newsprint has been restrained a bit," he added, "and the fact that we now buy newsprint in sterling terms rather than in dollar terms obviously helped".

The group was also helped by a 1p increase in the cover price of the *Daily Mirror* roughly a third of the way through its financial year. The increase - to 16p - represents a rise of 6 1/2 per cent.

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Lloyd's admits 40 years' irregularities

£6m jump for Mirror Group

Mirror Group Newspapers, which publishes seven national newspapers including the *Daily* and *Sunday Mirror*, the *Sunday People* and the *Scottish Daily Record*, almost quadrupled its profit in the last financial year.

Trading profit rose to £8.1m in the year to April 4 compared with £2.1m the previous year. Sales were up from £254m to £263m.

The Mirror Group is a subsidiary of Reed International, and yesterday Mr Kenneth Morton, Reed's finance director, attributed the improvement to tight cost control.

"The price of newsprint has been restrained a bit," he added, "and the fact that we now buy newsprint in sterling terms rather than in dollar terms obviously helped".

The group was also helped by a 1p increase in the cover price of the *Daily Mirror* roughly a third of the way through its financial year. The increase - to 16p - represents a rise of 6 1/2 per cent.

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P & O repels latest Trafalgar attack

Late bid for FMC stake

A last-minute bid from a private company has delayed the proposed offer for sale of the National Farmers' Union's 75 per cent stake in FMC, the meat processing group.

Mr Richard Butler, president of the National Farmers' Union, said the delay followed a cash offer, made last week, for

the union's stake. Both the NFU and FMC have denied suggestions that the bid has been made by Hillside Holdings.

As a result the proposed offer for sale of more than 10 million shares in FMC has been delayed for a month as the three parties sit down to thrash out terms.

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City Comment

Lourho stags at bay

The House of Fraser board yesterday came up with a strategy which it hopes finally kills off any chance of Lourho succeeding in forcing it to demerge Harrods.

The companies were set to lock anti-ers again at a shareholders' meeting on June 30 where, for the first time, it seemed likely that Lourho would win approval of more than 50 per cent of the votes.

So much for the plan. Yesterday, the Fraser board produced a resolution of its own, which said that Harrods should be demerged. It is recommended that shareholders vote against it, and it intends to call for a vote on this item, before the Lourho resolution is put, thereby pulling the rug from under it.

There are two further points. The first is that the Fraser inspired resolution needs a 75 per cent majority, and quite clearly will be defeated, thereby leaving Harrods where it is. The second point, Fraser now claims is that demerging Harrods would also require the approval of 50 per cent of the shareholders.

In other words, the Lourho 30 per cent stake would rank equally with that of the small shareholders are the backbone of the Fraser list, then there is again no hope of that approval coming through.

If Fraser's claim is correct then this needed majority of shareholders has meant that the Lourho proposal has never had a chance.

But on the other hand it does open the way for the long awaited bid, which is perhaps why the shares have risen strongly to 222p, up 4p on the day.

For if Lourho cannot succeed, it may well find a willing buyer for its shares in the consortium headed by Hambros Bank.

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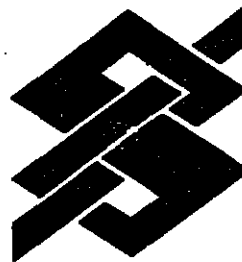
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BANCO DO BRASIL S.A.

CONDENSED COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF CONDITION
IN MILLIONS OF U.S. DOLLARS

	31.12.78	31.12.79	31.12.80	31.12.81	31.12.82
Assets					
Cash and due from banks	2,767.7	1,667.0	2,699.0	1,860.2	2,284.5
Loans	42,498.8	42,837.4	47,561.2	58,259.1	55,179.2
Securities	1,010.0	664.4	618.0	611.4	831.0
Bank premises and equipment	815.0	694.2	776.7	888.8	1,027.8
Other assets	1,965.3	3,383.0	848.0	3,785.0	2,625.9
TOTAL ASSETS	49,057.8	49,246.0	52,502.9	65,404.5	62,048.4
Liabilities					
Capital and reserves	4,057.5	3,269.6	3,597.7	4,323.0	4,655.5
Deposits	<u>22,729.2</u>	<u>16,074.9</u>	<u>26,096.0</u>	<u>23,840.7</u>	<u>24,104.4</u>
Demand	8,059.9	6,772.7	8,212.0	6,252.3	6,168.0
Time	14,669.3	9,302.2	17,884.0	17,588.4	17,936.4
Funds borrowed	8,654.2	15,644.3	17,043.6	21,230.7	18,594.5
Funds for refinancing	11,804.3	10,979.9	2,524.4	11,520.5	10,829.0
Other liabilities	1,812.6	3,277.3	3,241.2	4,489.6	3,865.0
TOTAL LIABILITIES	49,057.8	49,246.0	52,502.9	65,404.5	62,048.4

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		LONDON COMMODITY PRICES		LONDON METAL EXCHANGE	
High grade	1072-1073	1-100 tonnes	1072-1073	High grade	1072-1073
Low grade	1069-1070	1-100 tonnes	1069-1070	Low grade	1069-1070
Three month	1069-1070	1-100 tonnes	1069-1070	Three month	1069-1070
Three month	1069-1070	1-100 tonnes	1069-1070	Three month	1069-1070
Three month	1069-1070	1-100 tonnes	1069-1070	Three month	1069-1070
Three month	1069-1070	1-100 tonnes	1069-1070	Three month	1069-1070
Three month	1069-1070	1-100 tonnes	1069-1070	Three month	1069-1070
Three month	1069-1070	1-100 tonnes	1069-1070	Three month	1069-1070
Three month	1069-1070	1-100 tonnes	1069-1070	Three month	1069-1070
Three month	1069-1070	1-100 tonnes	1069-1070	Three month	1069-1070

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T1/8

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK edited by Sandy McLachlan

Reed's £21m exceeds City hopes

Reed International year to 3.4.83
Pre-tax profit £20.9m (£71.8m)
Stated earnings 33.5p (47.3p)
Turnover £1,809m (£1,898m)
Net final dividend 10p making 14p (same)
Share price 298p (up 6p) Yield 4.7 per cent
Dividend payable 16/8/83

Final quarter figures from Reed International were ahead of market expectations at £20.9m for three months to April 4 against £15.9m for the comparable period last year.

After an initial 12p rise the shares finished the day 6p better at 298p, and the last quarter improvement has helped to make up for the disappointing first half.

It brings pre-tax profits for the year to £60.9m against £71.8m (although the group is quick to point out that, on current cost basis, operating profit for the year is up by £22m as a result of lower inflation in Britain).

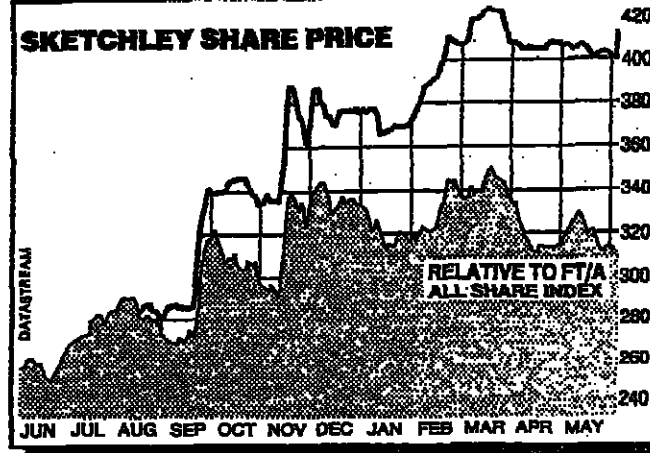
More important for the future, however, is the clear-out that Reed has achieved in the past year. Above the line it has taken in exceptional items of £14.6m, £9m of which occurred in the final quarter, including the one-off £4m closure costs of the Tivoli mill.

Below the line, as previously indicated, Reed has written off the whole of the £18.7m loss on the sale of Odhams to British Printing and Communications Corporation. After the maintained dividend, this leaves retained earnings sharply down at £4.3m against £37.6m the previous year, but again it is another non-recurring problem out of the way.

For the first time, Reed has broken its trading profit into 10 separate divisions, plus an item for central costs. This shows remarkably good results from Mirror Group Newspapers, where profits were up by a factor of almost four. It also highlights the problem areas of decorative products, where there was a trading loss of £10m.

The group is satisfied with the final quarter improvement last year and has had a healthy start to the current year. With uncertainties over both currency movements and newspaper prices, it is not committing itself about prospects, although it is pleased that the North American Wallcovering problems have been solved.

The shares look a much better bet than some other companies offering a yield of 4.7 per cent.



Sketchley

Year to 1.4.83
Pre-tax profit £9.1m (£7.3m)
Stated earnings 24.1p (22.1p)
Turnover £23.7m (£21.5m)
Net total dividend 12p (10.9p)
Share price 412p, up 12p Yield 4.2%
Dividend payable 21/7/83

The closure of the textile division which lost £770,000 last year has removed a big millstone from around Sketchley's neck. The balance of the business, which includes its two US acquisitions, looks as though it is firing on all cylinders at last.

Last year the industrial division lost business for the second year running as factories in the hard pressed industrial regions contracted or closed. But the attrition has slowed down in the past few weeks while the "Down Your Way" industrial garment business operated from vans on small industrial estates is holding its own.

More important, the contract with Ford has been renegotiated and Sketchley is confident that negotiations with the National Coal Board, its biggest industrial customer, will also be successful.

The last three-year contract with the NCB was worth £5m a year – about a sixth of the industrial division's turnover. With few miners and the NCB's preference to spread its buying, the new contract will probably be smaller – but still substantial. Despite the difficulties, the industrial division managed a small increase in profits to £5.3m on marginally lower turnover.

Profits in the cleaning division – which includes the high street shops – were well ahead at £3.4m against £2.6m.

Grindlays

There must be many outside shareholders in Grindlays who would be only too happy to see the bank's shareholding sorted out. Grindlays, which evolved in the days of the British Empire, serving the needs of trade in an out of the old colonial territories, has turned in a painfully lacklustre performance in recent years. Earnings per share halved between 1979 and last year.

Last year also Grindlays raised nearly £90m from selling its Hongkong subsidiary and its stake in National Bank of Dubai but it is far from clear where Grindlays is heading, and being sandwiched between Citibank and Lloyds Bank cannot make strategic decision-making easy.

Citibank owns 49 per cent of Grindlays Bank. The rest is held by the publicly quoted Grindlays Holdings in which Lloyds Bank has 41 per cent and the Bahrain and Middle East Bank 11 per cent.

Citibank has long been rumoured as a seller and this week's jump in the Grindlays share price was based on hopes that a deal was close which could lead to a full takeover bid.

Whether anything will materialize remains to be seen, and seasoned Grindlays watchers must be telling themselves that they have heard all this before.

Granville & Co Limited.
(Formerly M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited)
27/28 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212
The Over-the-Counter Market

1982/83	1981/82	Company	Price	Chg	Open	High	Low	Close	Yield	P/E	Dividend
142	120	Asa Brit Ind Ord	135	-	6.4	4.7	7.9	10.3			
158	117	Asa Brit Ind CUS	152	-	10.0	6.6	-	-			
74	57	Airprung Group	65	-	6.1	9.4	18.6	18.6			
46	26	Armstrong & Rhodes	26	-	4.3	16.5	2.9	5.1			
353	197	Bardon Hill	353	+1	11.4	3.3	14.8	18.7			
150	100	CCL 11.0% Conv Pref	150	-	15.7	10.4	-	-			
270	210	Cladco Group	212	-	17.6	8.3	-	-			
86	46	Deborah Services	45	-	6.0	13.3	3.0	8.0			
97	77	Frank Harsell	96	-	8.7	9.2	10.5	11.3			
96	75	Frank Harsell Pr Ord	87	-	8.7	9.2	10.5	11.3			
83	61	Frederick Parker	62	-	7.1	11.5	3.9	6.2			
55	34	George Blair	34	-	-	-	5.9	12.3			
100	74	Ind Proc Castings	76	-	7.3	9.6	9.7	12.3			
181	100	Isis Conv Pref	181	-	15.7	8.7	-	-			
165	94	Jackson Group	165	-	9.0	6.6	4.3	8.5			
230	111	James Barraghy	230	-	9.6	4.2	16.8	18.7			
260	148	Robert Jenkins	154	+1	20.0	12.3	1.7	24.4			
83	54	Scrutons "A"	67	-	5.7	8.5	8.7	10.5			
167	110	Torday & Carlisle	112	-	11.4	10.1	5.0	8.6			
29	21	Unilock Holdings	26	-	0.46	1.8	-	-			
85	64	Walter Alexander	69	+1	6.4	9.3	4.9	7.1			
270	214	W. S. Yates	264	-	17.1	6.5	4.1	8.4			

Prices now available on Prestel, page 48146

AN IMPRESSIVE GROWTH RATE

Five years ago the Group made a pre-tax profit of £51.9 million – last year the profit was £90 million and in the previous year – 1981 – over £100 million. In the world economy, and particularly in the construction sector, this five year period has been one of great difficulty – against this background your Group achieved a compound growth rate of 15 per cent a year.

During this same period the Group has brought into production in its subsidiary and associate companies overseas, no less than ten new cement plants with the capacity to produce nearly eight million tonnes a year.

We also moved outside our traditional cement business with the acquisition of Armitage Shanks which makes ceramic sanitaryware and other bathroom products.

OUR STRATEGY – EXPANSION OVERSEAS AND DIVERSIFICATION

These moves were in pursuance of a strategy, firstly of expanding overseas, where we foresaw greater growth in demand for our product, and secondly of selective diversification into products new to us. This wide geographical spread has stood us in good stead through the recession and remains one of our principal strengths.

In 1982, Mexico and Chile, which had achieved exceptional growth in the previous year, faltered – profits from the Americas fell by £37 million from the previous year. The fact that our Group profits overall fell by no more than £14 million reflects encouraging performance elsewhere. Malaysia and Nigeria did particularly well, as did Australia.

A SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT IN UK PROFITS

I am particularly pleased to report a substantial improvement in profits from our UK

cement operations – achieved against a price that was held throughout the year and indeed, reduced marginally in some areas.

We are continuing to improve the efficiency of our UK plants particularly in energy consumption. Shoreham Works has now been converted from wet to semi-

Points from the address by the Chairman Sir Rowland Wright, CBE, to the Annual General Meeting on June 7

dry process and similar conversions of two kilns at Northfleet will be completed soon. A dry process kiln is to be built at Caudon Works to replace existing facilities and up-dating of Dunbar Works is projected.

ABERTHAW CEMENT – A WELCOME ADDITION

This company presently produces about 800,000 tonnes of cement a year but we believe that, with additional expenditure, its efficiency can be further improved and its production increased.

This will provide us with more capacity in the West Country and so relieve demand on older, less efficient plant. It will permit some rationalisation of our distribution facilities in that part of the country and it also integrates well with the proposal to build a new plant at Oxford later this decade. We have already established a good working relationship with Abertthaw and I welcome them to the Blue Circle fold.

THE USA – A NEW MARKET

Some two weeks ago we completed the acquisition of three cement plants and a lime plant in the United States.

The plants are dry process units, the management is of high calibre and last but not least, we believe the price was about right!

We have also been active in other sectors of the USA. Last year our subsidiary Armitage Shanks acquired a ceramic sanitaryware manufacturer Kilgore Ceramic Corporation in Texas, which has already exceeded expectations and is clearly destined to be an increasingly important contributor to the success of the Armitage Shanks Group of companies.

1983 – AND WHAT IT HOLDS

Overseas, most economies are in recession and 1983 is not going to be a year of growth for us. The problems of Mexico and Chile will take time to resolve. However, the substantial investment by all our cement manufacturing subsidiaries and associates in modern, efficient dry process plants will enable us to reap full benefit from these works as the world economy pulls out of recession.

In the UK, cement sales to date are only modestly above those of the same period last year, with the exceptionally wet weather holding back construction activity. Housing starts are up significantly but recovery in the industrial and commercial sectors is less in evidence.

For the year as a whole we expect to see some further increases in UK cement consumption, but the main contribution to maintaining margins will come from improvements in efficiency.

Inflation is continuing to fall and interest rates have come down so conditions are undoubtedly becoming more favourable for the construction industry.

PRESENTING THE FULL PICTURE OF BLUE CIRCLE

Blue Circle

For copies of the full text of the Chairman's statement and the Company's Report and Accounts, please write to the Company Secretary, Blue Circle Industries PLC, Portland House, Stag Place, London SW1E 5BJ.

NOTICE TO
HOLDERS OF MONTANA
POWER INTERNATIONAL
FINANCE N.V. BEARER
SECURITIES

Copies of the Annual Reports of Montana Power International Finance N.V. and The Montana Power Company and the Montana Power Company Annual Report to the Securities and Exchange Commission on Form 10-K are available upon request from:

The Montana Power Company
Attn: Russell J. Cox
40 East Broadway
Butte, Montana 59701 U.S.A.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	10 %
Barclays	10 %
BCCI	10 %
Consolidated Crds	10 %
C. Hoare & Co	10 %
Lloyds Bank	10 %
Midland Bank	10 %
Nat Westminster	10 %
TSB	10 %
Williams & Glyn's	10 %

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 0.75% £10,000 to £20,000, 1% £20,000 and over.

Cater Allen

For the year ended 30th April 1983

- * The Company has had a successful year
- * Net profit of £4,250,000 after transfer to inner reserves
- * Dividend 38% from 34%
- * Looking for further expansion in London and internationally

Financial Highlights

	1983	1982
Issued Capital – Preference	£000	£000
– Ordinary	2,085	2,085
Reserve	6,888	6,874
Profit & Loss Balance	5,500	5,468
	4,766	2,448
	19,239	16,875
Total Assets	1,134,745	660,990
Profit	4,250	2,072
Dividends	1,932	1,593

Cater Allen Holdings PLC
1, King William Street, London EC4N 7AU
Telephone: 01-623 2070

BURY COURT HOUSE IS FOR COMPANIES WHICH NEED TO BE IN THE CITY OF LONDON IN OFFICES WHICH PROVIDE PRESTIGE AND STYLE AS WELL AS THE MOST MODERN AND EFFICIENT WORKING ENVIRONMENT.

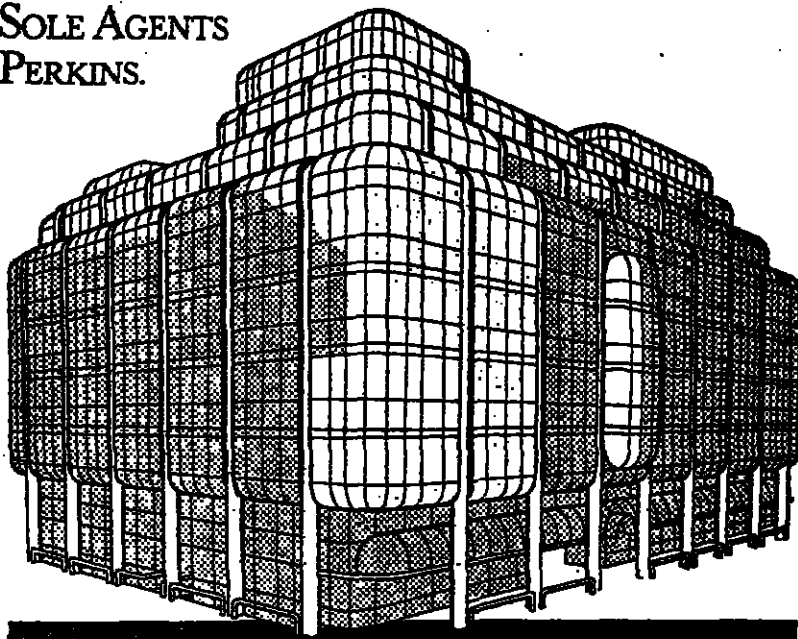
SITUATED NEXT TO THE BALTIC EXCHANGE, BURY COURT HOUSE WILL BE COMPLETED DURING OCTOBER THIS YEAR AND WILL PROVIDE 105,000 SQUARE FEET OF OFFICE SPACE ON NINE FLOORS. FOUR OF THE FLOORS ARE APPROXIMATELY 14,000 SQUARE FEET AND TWO ARE IN EXCESS OF 9,000 SQUARE FEET.

BURY COURT HOUSE IS DESIGNED BOTH FOR FLEXIBILITY, EASE, EFFICIENCY AND ECONOMY OF OPERATION, AND TO MEET THE INCREASING NEEDS OF COMPANIES FOR MODERN TELECOMMUNICATION AND COMPUTER BASED INFORMATION SYSTEMS.

SOLAR CONTROL GLAZING, COMPUTER MONITORED AIR CONDITIONING, COVERED CAR PARKING, AN INTEGRATED DIGITAL TELEPHONE EXCHANGE, ARE INCLUDED TOGETHER WITH A VERY HIGH STANDARD OF NORMAL FITTINGS AND SERVICES.

INTERNALLY, A STRIKING FEATURE IS THE CENTRAL ATRIUM RISING THROUGHOUT THE BUILDING AND CREATING LIGHT AND SPACE AS WELL AS AN EXTENSIVE OPEN GROUND FLOOR RECEPTION.

BURY COURT HOUSE IS BEING DEVELOPED BY HASLEMERE ESTATES IN CONJUNCTION WITH SCOTTISH AMICABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY. THE SOLE AGENTS ARE NEWTON PERKINS.



BURY COURT HOUSE
CITY OF LONDON EC3

FOR FULL INFORMATION, PLEASE WRITE TO, OR TELEPHONE:

B. W. DAVIS, NEWTON PERKINS, 10 NORTHUMBERLAND ALLEY, FENCHURCH STREET, LONDON EC3. 01-488 1355.

This advertisement does not form part of any contract. Although every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, this cannot be guaranteed.

MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

Charter bid on the cards

ACCOUNTANT'S Dealings begin, June 8. Dealings end, June 17. Contango Day, June 23. Settlement Day, June 27.

and brokers are entitled to have their own views on companies.

At last night's level, the group was valued at £305m. Elsewhere, share prices remained confident of a Conservative landslide victory in the General Election.

Shares of tobacco group Rothmans International "B" surged 1p to 115p yesterday as South African investors picked up more than 2 million shares, just under 2 per cent of the equity, at about the 115p level. Mr Anton Rupert's Rembrandt Group, has been tipped as a likely bidder. The full year figures expected shortly should exceed £135m, compared with £105m last time.

Election, with the FT Index closing at its high for the day 6.9 up at 710.3. But conditions remained thin with jobbers striving to keep an even position ahead of Thursday's poll.

The slowdown in growth of the May money supply figures came as a welcome relief to the gilt market, where earlier losses of more than 1% were reduced to 1/2% by the close. The pound ended 0.4 cents lower at \$1.5720 on the foreign exchange.

In leading equities, Beecham lost ground, closing 2p off at 371p, after 365p, amid fears that one of its latest wonderdrugs may never see the light of day.

Brokers W. Greenwell remain cautious of the group's prospects and believe the share price has been running ahead of events. As a result they have downgraded estimates for 1983/4 to £260m against £237m last time. The market estimates are as high as £295 million.

According to Greenwell the pound has risen 11 per cent since the year end which bodes ill for the group as last year more than 70 per cent of its earnings came from abroad. This could result in currency losses of about £20m.

Shares of UBM, the West

Mr Asif Nadir's attempts at restoring confidence in his Polly Peck empire received another boost yesterday as the shares rose 1/2 to 117 1/2 - their highest level for several months. This comes after the latest meeting between Polly Peck and the institutions at the offices of brokers James Capel at which Mr Nadir outlined his plans for the future.

Country builders merchant tumbled 3 1/2p to 89p after yesterday's report in The Times that there was a large seller of 3 million shares in the market. Only last week the shares hit a

new high after reporting a turnaround from a loss of £2m to a profit of £2.6m.

Electrical group GEC rose 1p to 247p after buying a 37 1/2 per cent stake in Hotpoint, the washing machine manufacturer from Schreiber. In return Schreiber will receive GEC's 62 1/2 per cent stake in Schreiber Industries. Under the complicated scheme Schreiber shareholders will receive £1.5m in cash and 2.5m GEC ordinary shares.

Among the newcomers Remshaw made a successful start on the Unlisted Securities Market establishing a 20p premium at 170p. McLaughlin & Harvey was also sought after on its debut opening at 180p - a premium of 25p.

Making its debut among the full listings, Abagworth, the computer experts rose 7p to 307p.

Meanwhile, United Electronic Holdings spurted 15p to 60p after announcing it was in talks which could lead to a bid. It hopes to make an announcement as soon as possible.

The odds on a fullscale bid for the mining finance house, Charter Consolidated, are beginning to shorten.

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Certainly the market is talking in terms of a bid. Those who have already cast an eye over company donkey charts, Mr Harry Oppenheimer's Minorco, with 35.7 per cent of the shares, would stand in the way of a bid from another company or a group of institutions.

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North Sea offshoot keeps group in red

By John Lawless

Associated Fisheries has been incurring increased losses in the North Sea - by repairing and servicing the oil industry.

Its engineering offshoot, Aberdeen Jig and Tool, has seen steady demand push half-time profits up by about two-thirds to £149,000.

But the rest of AF's results, published yesterday underline that its more traditional activities are still suffering.

On a turnover of £33.1m, AF turned in a trading profit of £694,000 - a more than doubling of last year's half-time figures, but the interim dividend remains unchanged at 0.25p.

There are simply too many United Kingdom trawlers chasing catches.

AF is hoping for government action soon - a future policy for the fleet having been thrashed out within the industry. In the meantime, though, it has reported fishing losses of £497,000, against £291,000 at the same time last year.

Providing no more substantial losses are made by its trawlers - and given trading conditions which follow their normal seasonal patterns - a year-end pretax profit should be unchanged at £1.85m.

AF sold off one of its cold storage depots, at Nine Elms, last year and although the market remains depressed, stores at Wolverhampton and Tewkesbury in particular marginally helped improve this division's trading profit to £435,000.

Boost for McCorquodale

The Brazilian and South African subsidiaries of McCorquodale, the specialist printer, boosted its profits significantly in the last six months trading on which it reported yesterday.

Although the sterling/cruzeiro exchange is deteriorating rapidly, the latest results include an extraordinary credit of £600,000, which almost entirely stemmed from foreign money movements.

This unrealized profit on exchange arose from revaluing the group's overseas net assets and foreign currency liabilities at rates ruling at the end of March in place of those at the end of September last year.

But whilst sales were up to £55.7m, against £49.1m at the same time last year, trading profit dipped to £2.95m from £3.23m. Pretax profit rose 16 per cent to £3.5m.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● Estate & Agency Holdings:
Pretax profits for 1982 jumped by 157 per cent to £324,000. Earnings per ordinary share climbed from 0.29p to 3.75p. Net assets per ordinary share rose by 36 per cent to 190p. The year's profits of £324,000 and the dividend of 2p net a share (against with 1981's 1p) compared with the forecasts of about £300,000 and 1.5p respectively made by the company last Sept.

Lake & Elliot
Half-year to 31.3.83.
Pretax loss, £1.14 (£445,000).
Turnover, £11.87m (£12m).
Net interim dividend, nil (1.0p).

Property & Reversionary Investments
Year to 31.3.83.
Pretax profit, £2.09 (£2.32m).
Stated earnings, 5.8p (4.5p).
Net rental income, £2.58m (£2.41m).
Net dividend, 3.5p (3.3p).

Scotcor
Year to 31.3.83.
Pretax profit, £715,000 (£200,000).
Stated earnings, 5.0p (loss, 0.5p).
Turnover, £46.43m (£39.2m).
Net dividend, 5.51p (5.1p).

El Oro Mining & Exploration
Year to 31.12.82.
Pretax profit, £740,000 (£746,000).
Net dividend, 2.45p (2.1p), already paid.

Clyde Blowers
Year to 28.2.83.
Pretax profit, £98,000 (£245,000).
Stated earnings, 4.85p (12.27p).
Turnover, £1.98m (£2.01m).
Net interim dividend, 0.82p (0.82p).

Scott and Robertson hit by merger losses

By Jeremy Walker

Scott and Robertson of Dundee has had to provide £300,000 against losses incurred by its jute fibre interests since they were merged with those of the Co-operative Wholesale Society last August.

The interests were merged into a new jointly-owned company called Tay Spinners and control entrusted to an independent executive board drawn from both the former companies.

Mr James Jardine, chairman of Scott and Robertson, said yesterday that severe trading losses had been incurred since the merger. "We have been forced to make changes," he said.

In the year to the end of last February, the company turned losses of £109,000 in the previous 12 months into pretax profits of £92,000. However,

this was transformed into a huge loss below the line by an extraordinary debit of £567,000, which takes account of the £300,000 provision against Tay Spinners.

A better start had been made, Mr Jardine said, to the present year by all the groups' subsidiaries, but results were likely to be further affected by the problems at Tay Spinners.

The company was no longer predominantly an industrial textiles concern, but now had a wide range of interests in the packaging field as well as its traditional jute and polypropylene interests, he said.

Shorts near to clinching £32m aircraft order

New business worth £32m was negotiated by Shorts, the Belfast aerospace company, at the recent Paris Air Show, Sir Philip Foreman, the chairman, said in Ulster yesterday.

The new contracts, still to be finalized, are orders from operators for Shorts' best-selling 330 and 360 commuter airliners.

But it is believed that the "launch" customer for the new Short Sherpa, a freighter and military transport derivative, of the 330, was also signed up at the Paris show.

Margins and orders will put Sumrie profits right

By Jonathan Clare

Sumrie Clothes, the Leeds maker of men's suits, should return to profit this year after a big reduction in its losses over the past 12 months.

The Tillman Group, the company of Mr Harold Tillman, who made a successful 65p share offer for Sumrie in April, will be injected into the company during the present year.

Mr Tillman, and his colleagues, control 46 per cent of Sumrie's shares, a further 11 per cent are in the hands of a

Sumrie Clothes Year to 2.4.83
Pretax Loss £1,000 (Loss £84,000)
Stated Loss 1.98p (6.17p)
Turnover £2.6m (£2.8m)
Net total dividend 1.5p (same)
Share price 105p, down 1p Yield 2%

Monaco company called Le Chevalier, the true identity of which remains unclear.

The improvement in results stems from better orders, economy measures and the cutting of overheads.

The results include a £16,000 loss from the retail subsidiary.



Hopkinsons Holdings p.l.c.

Extracts from Mr. F.R. Bentley's Statement circulated with the Accounts for the year to 28th January, 1983

Last year's more pleasing result has been maintained. The second half had a somewhat greater turnover and profitability than the corresponding period of last year restoring the first half's shortfall; the improved liquidity brought a credit of interest earned and contributed to the slight improvement in the pre-tax profit. Comment at the last Annual General Meeting together with the interim statement expressed concern at the state of the market place, the latter particularly identifying the low pressure sector as depressed. The results in part reflect the lack of success which our efforts had to improve the position in that sector.

Hopkinsons Limited performed well and the co-operation of all concerned with short time working gave a flexibility of capacity to production requirements. The introduction of a computer aided design system, to be followed by computer aided manufacture, has been well received at the Works and the enthusiasm is heartening for the future. J. Blakeborough & Sons Limited is the operator most affected by the low pressure market but at the same time suffered recession in its exports. These problems continue and remedial action is being taken. Bryan Donkin Company Limited found compressor orders scarce and had to make a 10% reduction in labour force but ended the year in reasonable shape. Wolstenholmes (Radcliffe) Limited held its head above water in a highly competitive market. At John Moncrieff Limited closure threatened, but a severe slimming down exercise was carried out coupled with a different emphasis in manufacturing techniques which, if orders keep at their current levels, will enable profitability to be restored.

Trading conditions continue to be difficult and with order books remaining at previous levels we have the capacity to take advantage of an improvement in the market overall we are trading profitably.

RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28th JANUARY, 1983

	1983	1982
Turnover	£54,511	£54,714
Trading profit	3,359	3,708
Profit before taxation	3,503	3,487
Profit after taxation	2,239	2,606
Dividend	5.65p	6.65p
Earnings	17.0p	19.81p

Hopkinsons Holdings p.l.c., Birkby Grange, Huddersfield HD2 2XB

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange



NATIONWIDE LEISURE PLC

(Incorporated in England No. 223490)

Authorised	Share Capital	Issued and fully paid
£2,000,000	in Ordinary Shares of 5p each	£1,316,755

In connection with the introduction of 26,335,098 Ordinary Shares of 5p each application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the grant of permission to deal in the above mentioned securities on the Unlisted Securities Market. It is emphasised that no application has been made for these securities to be admitted to the Official List.

Particulars relating to the Company are available in the Extel Unlisted Securities Service. Copies of the Extel card may be obtained during normal business hours on any weekday (Saturdays excepted) up to and including 22nd June 1983 from:-

Montagu, Loeb, Stanley & Co.,
31, Sun Street,
London, EC2M 2QP.



Reed International PLC.

Preliminary Results for
Year Ended 3 April 1983

Trading Results

The results of the first half year were disappointing with trading profit of £33.1m compared with £43.4m for the corresponding period of the previous year. Although the second half saw a recovery to trading profit of £44.3m (1982: £38.2m), the improvement was not sufficient to make good the shortfall in the first half. The lower trading profit of £77.4m (1982: £81.6m) and increased interest charges reduced historical cost profit before tax to £60.9m (1982: £71.6m).

In spite of the fall in historical cost earnings, current cost operating profit increased by 22%, benefiting materially from the lower rate of inflation in the United Kingdom.

UK operations improved their trading profit over last year but there was a significant reduction in the profit of the overseas activities. Publishing operations increased their contribution to the trading profit to over 60% of the total.

The cost of rationalisation charged in the year was £15m (1982: £20m); principal items were closure of Tovel paper mill (£4m) and the Buffalo wallcoverings mill (£3m) and redundancies at Sphinx sanitaryware in Holland (£2m).

	1983	1982
£ million		
Sales	168	174
Profit	0.1	0.8
European Paper	280	275
Packaging	326	249
Reed Publishing	241	252
Consumer Publishing	263	254
Mirror Group Newspapers	101	104
Decorative Products	170	162
Paint and DIY	151	142
Reed Trading	151	133
Reed Building Products	146	141
North American Paper		
Central Costs	(7.7)	(6.0)
(Net of Property Sales)	(188)	(187)
Inter-Company Sales	1809	1699
	77.4	81.6

United Kingdom

Intensely competitive conditions continued to affect the packaging, publishing and paint activities. Consumer publishing benefited from the elimination of losses at Odhams (Watford) which was sold during the year to British Printing & Communications Corporation giving rise to an extraordinary charge of £1.9m. Mirror Group Newspapers improved profit due to tight control of costs. Paper-making lost £2m after charging £4m for closure of Tovel mill. Rationalisation in Decorative Products began in earlier years was largely completed and these businesses had returned to profit by the end of the year. In spite of weak export markets, Building Products increased profit over the previous year.

Overseas

Consumer demand in North America fell dramatically during the first half. The resulting de-stocking and weak market conditions had a severe impact on North American Paint and Decorative Products and made it necessary to close the wallcoverings factory in Buffalo, USA. The costs of this closure and of transferring production to a new factory in Toronto contributed to a loss of £8m in North American Wallcoverings. Although the Quebec newspaper mill ran full throughout the year, the fall in the price of newspaper in November 1982 reduced profit in the second half. Overseas publishing activities and particularly those in North America increased profit in spite of the recession.

Taxation

Higher UK profit together with lower Stock Relief and Capital Allowances increased the UK corporation tax charge to a level which enabled ACT on the current year's dividend to be fully absorbed.

The effective rate of tax on consolidated pre-tax profit was 34% compared with 25% last year.

Investment

Capital expenditure totalled £71m (1982: £68m) of which £15m related to the programme for increased capacity and product improvement at the Quebec newspaper mill.

In addition, £42m was spent on acquisitions which extended Reed International's interests in paint, exhibitions, UK regional newspapers, publication of medical journals and lignin chemicals.

Finance

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET	
£ million	3.4.83
Funds Invested	597
Shareholders' Funds	569
Outside Shareholders' Interests	4
Loan Capital	190
Historical Cost Total	791
CCA Adjustments	163
Current Cost Total	954
Funds Employed	913
Properties and Plant	429
Investments	20
Goodwill	98
Working Capital	242
Cash (less Bank Loans)	2
Historical Cost Total	791
CCA Adjustments	163
Current Cost Total	954

With low levels of demand in many businesses and reduced rates of inflation, a fall in the level of working capital was offset by exchange differences. The cash inflow from operations of £24m compared with outflows of £9m and £14m for the previous two years.

The increase in the Debt/Equity ratio to 38% (1982: 32%) was entirely due to expenditure on acquisitions.

Earnings and Dividends

Profit attributable to shareholders before extraordinary items was Historical £40m (1982: £54m) and Current Cost £6m (1982: £9m) resulting in Earnings per Share of Historical 33.5p (1982: 47.3p) and Current Cost 5.1p (1982: 8.1p).

The Board has decided to recommend a final dividend of 10p per ordinary share making, together with the interim dividend of 4p already paid, a total of 14p for the year (1982: 14p).

Subject to the approval of the Annual General Meeting which will be held on 4 August 1983, the final dividend will be paid on 16 August 1983 to shareholders on the register on 8 July 1983.

REED INTERNATIONAL P.L.C.
REED HOUSE, 83 PICCADILLY, LONDON W1A 1EJ

PRELIMINARY CONSOLIDATED PROFIT STATEMENT

for the 52 weeks to 3 April 1983

	Historical Cost	Current Cost
	Year Ended	Year Ended
	3.4.83	3.4.83
	£ million	£ million
Turnover	1344.1	1283.5
United Kingdom and Overseas	464.9	415.0
	1809.0	1698.5
Trading Profit before Exceptional Items	92.0	101.1
Exceptional Items	(14.6)	(19.5)
Share of Profits of Related Companies	1.0	2.5
Operating Profit	78.4	84.1
United Kingdom	56.7	44.4
Overseas	21.7	39.7
Gearing Adjustment	—	—
Interest	(17.5)	(12.5)
Profit before Taxation	60.9	71.6
Taxation	(14.9)	(16.1)
United Kingdom	(6.0)	(11.5)
Overseas	(20.9)	(17.6)
Profit after Taxation	46.0	55.5
Outside Shareholders' Interests	(0.3)	0.1
Preference Dividends	(0.2)	(0.2)
Profit before Extraordinary Item	39.5	53.9
Extraordinary Item	(18.7)	—
Profit/(Loss) attributable to Ordinary Shareholders	20.8	53.9
Ordinary Dividends paid and proposed	(16.5)	(16.3)
1983: 14p per share (1982: 14p per share)	4.3	37.6
Profit/(Loss) Retained	33.5p	47.3p
Earnings per Ordinary Share	33.5p	47.3p

The figures for the 52 weeks to 3 April 1983 are abridged from the Group's full accounts for that period, which have received an unqualified auditors' report and will be filed with the Registrar of Companies after the Annual General Meeting.

REED INTERNATIONAL includes such famous household names as Crown Paints and Crown Wallcoverings. Polycell, Sanderson, Sphinx tiles, Wyford ceramic sanitaryware and baths, Mira showers and Key Terrain waste systems. Produces 60 million thermoplastic injection mouldings for British industry every year. Prints 35 million newspapers every week. Publishes 700 million copies annually of 250 magazines, business and technical journals, directories, travel guides and publications for children, as well as Hamlyn general interest books and Butterworth legal, technical, medical and scientific books. Has more outdoor advertising sites in England than any other contractor. Manufactures one in five of Britain's corrugated cases and one in five of its envelopes. Makes nearly 5 million paper sacks per week. Converts board into 80 million cartons each week. Buys more waste paper than anyone else in Britain. Produces one out of every six tonnes of paper and board manufactured in the UK. Organises more exhibitions worldwide than anyone else. And much more besides.

A major force in many markets, comprising over fifty unique and significant businesses

On election eve, Graham Searjeant assesses policies that will affect job-queues

Making the Williamsburg strategy work

The only clear consensus to emerge from the general election campaign is that unemployment – and how to cure it – is the biggest issue on which voters have to decide Britain's national strategy tomorrow. With only slightly less consensus, it has emerged that roughly half Britain's rising unemployment stemmed from government policies (or Britain's special long-run problems) and half from the worst world recession since the 1930s.

There was, therefore, more than a touch of irony when, only after long heart-searching, Mrs Thatcher decided to make a hurried overnight visit to the Williamsburg summit as an interruption to the election campaign. For if the election was to set the course for policy on domestically generated unemployment then the summit was its nearest equivalent in setting global policy on the world slump and how to handle recovery.

There is no reason to think that global strategies will have any more or less effect on the job queues than policies pursued after the election at home.

Whatever happens tomorrow, Mrs Thatcher's cures certainly prevailed at Williamsburg. The message of the seven leaders' communiqué, as from the talks themselves, was that only vigilance against inflation, sound money, cuts in "structural" budget deficits through controlled spending on transfer payments and lower interest rates will make room for a natural and enduring economic recovery.

Indeed, with the possible and vital exception of exchange rate targets, the advanced countries have adopted a version of Sir Geoffrey Howe's medium-term financial strategy. They have also recommended it – via the

banks and the International Monetary Fund – to other countries, from Brazil to Holland, not privileged to sit round the summit table.

Yet the Williamsburg communiqué remains a more intriguing and unpredictable economic document than the Conservative Party manifesto.

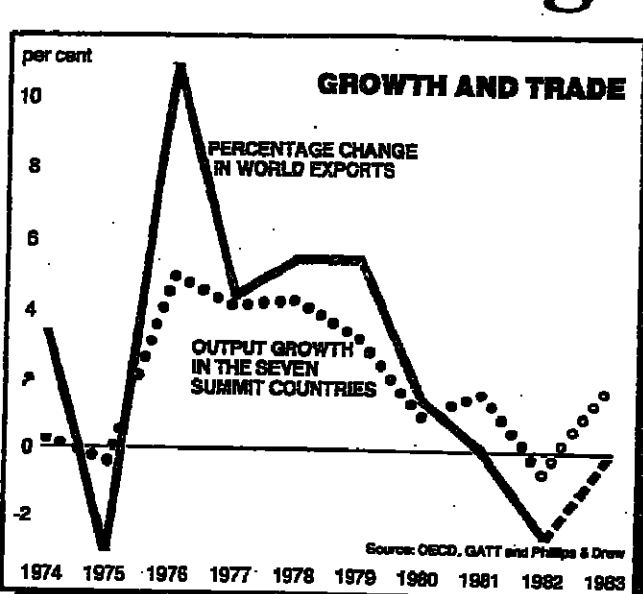
The summit had been unlike any other in its build-up. Instead of mere arguments about what one or other country should do, it faced an agenda for joint agreement to reform the international financial system, beyond the scope of national action even by the United States.

The debt crisis, backdoor protection, widely fluctuating interest and exchange rates, all the detritus of recession, could slow down recovery by inhibiting investment in advanced countries and keeping Third World markets depressed. Slow recovery would make no impact on unemployment or poverty and possibly abort the whole process after the first stage.

Figures as diverse as New Zealand's Mr Robert Muldoon, Japan's Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, ex-Chancellor Herr Helmut Schmidt and French leaders past and present formulated variously ambitious programmes to clear away this debris.

Long before the summit, the possibilities of sterile debate on inflation versus sound money had disappeared in favour of a divide between international reformers and the American view that recovery would itself gather sufficient strength to sweep away these apparent obstacles.

The final communiqué addressed all these obstacles. Indeed, given a startling lack of specific pledges, it reads not unlike the eight guidelines set



out in advance by Herr Schmidt. It focuses on the need to cut interest rates and bring economic policies closer to stabilize the five main currencies: it expresses determination to halt the trend to protection and reverse it "as recovery proceeds", to coordinate intervention in foreign exchange markets when needed, and bolster the IMF and other international agencies to stop the debt crisis getting out of hand.

Only negotiations with the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to stabilize oil prices and the so-called "new Bretton Woods" conference to establish semi-fixed exchange rates went firmly onto the back burner.

Yet this was enough to convert President Mitterrand, the most vocally sceptical summiteer, to the idea that these meetings are splendidly useful after all. So far, the facts

hardly support such optimism. The overvalued dollar has kept rising against most currencies other than the poll-booster pound.

Interest rates in the United States have actually edged up. Yet the French have remained buoyant since their return to Paris to embark on another round of enforced austerity.

There is, they are convinced, a change in the atmosphere, brought about by a belated but genuine American understanding of the need to shore up Third World trade and of the reality of the threats to world recovery.

But will this intangible change of atmosphere actually mean anything?

The dollar and US interest rates provide an early test. The dollar is strong for the usual reason, that the budget deficit is boosting money supply and interest rates. To reverse this in the short-term, the authorities

would have to say they were unconcerned about the money figures, or take other action to curb them, push against any rise in rates and act with the countries of the European Monetary System on the exchanges.

In practice, Mr Martin Feldstein, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, has merely made a prepared speech saying that the "the recent rapid growth of the M1 money supply is a serious concern. The money stock must not be allowed to go on expanding at its recent pace".

In the longer run there are also problems over interest rates. The US position is confused. For instance, Mr Donald Regan, the Treasury Secretary has opined that the budget deficit has little to do with high interest rates. The more general stance is that recovery will itself help cut rates, contrary to traditional thinking. Output will catch up with money. Cuts in unemployment will trim the budget. And inflationary expectations, which traditionally overhang interest rates for some time, will be swept away.

This might offer scope for joint action through the more regular planned consultations of the top five finance ministers and the managing director of the IMF. Coordinated moves to cut interest rates simultaneously as output curbs inflation might have little effect on money or foreign exchange markets, especially after the important expressions of confidence in recovery sent out by the summit.

Otherwise, the ministerial meetings to coordinate policy may start with some lean sessions. In the United States, the tax/welfare/defence impasse

between White House and Congress over the budget could continue until the presidential election.

Europe, has some way to go before economic growth passes the threshold – 3 to 4 per cent – where it might have some impact on unemployment, not only in Britain but also in deficit-ridden Italy and the Benelux countries.

The key issue in convergence remains whether an agreement to manage currencies within agreed bands would be the spur to more compatible economic policies or can only follow them.

Mr Nakasone has stressed that exchange rate fluctuations are behind protectionism and therefore shrinking world trade, which used to be the biggest single stimulus to Third World development.

As yet, output growth has yet to pass the point at which it might again stimulate instead of depressing world trade. The volume of trade and commodity prices, along with interest rates remain the keys to unlocking the debt crisis outside the advanced industrial nations. Countries like Brazil and some oil producers still face sharp falls in activity.

Again, unemployment is vital. Regardless of economic progress, high unemployment will provide a spur to protectionist measures, which were growing up until the weekend of the summit. If ministers can hold the line despite unemployment, they might bridge that vital gap to sustained recovery.

As Britain and the United States lead recovery, then West Germany and Japan get moving later this year, there should be few doubts about a growing return to economic health, unemployment aside next year.

The problems will arise when the short-term cycle peaks, perhaps in 1985. Unless world trade and the finances of developing countries have been sorted out by then, the Williamsburg strategy will be sorely tested.

Financial notebook

Gossip that mars the City's image

Bouncing share prices have spurred the Takeover Panel to remind companies and bankers that it is no longer City practice to gossip about bids before they are actually announced.

It is the sort of thing which tarnishes the City's image and, while Professor Jim Gower reviews Britain's protection for the ordinary investor, the image is quite important.

Buying shares on price sensitive information known by only a few can be unfair to ordinary shareholders, and tends sometimes to create false markets. It is also illegal.

The law against it was passed three years ago this month.

As with the legislation outlawing "concert parties" – those who buy shares separately and in secret to use them as one holding later – proof was always the worry.

Neither the law on insider dealing nor in concert parties has ever been tested. The three insider dealing cases to date have been guilty and no concert party charges have ever been brought.

The last Parliamentary question requesting the number of cases under investigation was two years ago.

Assessing whether the City itself takes the legislation seriously is difficult. Preliminary investigations into share price movements are carried out by the Stock Exchange.

Their quotations committee decides whether the movement in the share prices was normal or information-inspired.

If they feel buying was heavier than would normally have been expected and that a *prima facie* case of insider dealing exists, the papers are passed to the Department of Trade.

But the Exchange has long since stopped making public statements on which inquiries have been passed to the DoT. The practice seems short

sighted and a dangerous precedent.

While appreciating the need to maintain anonymity of individuals and firms with possible involvement in investigation, there seems little harm in identifying the name of the company whose share dealings are being probed.

The exchange now merely gives the numbers of investigations. In the 12 months to March inquiries into abnormal price movements rose from 3,267 to 3,753. But the number eventually passed to the Department of Trade dropped from 21 to 18.

Whether this shows fewer cases of insider dealing or acute difficulty in gaining evidence for such a charge must be left to conjecture.

The Department of Trade issues no statistics at all. But it is generally believed that there are several dozen cases currently under investigation.

This reluctance to discuss an issue which benefits a few at the expense of the majority must surely harm the City's reputation.

The most important commodity in the stock market is information. Real markets tend to be highly informed and takeover activity is reaching the hottest levels for years.

Buying on takeover information tips is inextricably linked with buying or selling on information like profits figures or trading not covered under the Takeover Panel's remit.

This is one for the Stock Exchange. It may take the cynical view that insider dealing will never be stopped. It is an intrinsic part of the system.

But given the current political interest in that institution's affairs, it would seem some small help to the workings of the City for it to offer some public support to the Panel's attempts at plugging the leaks.

Philip Robinson



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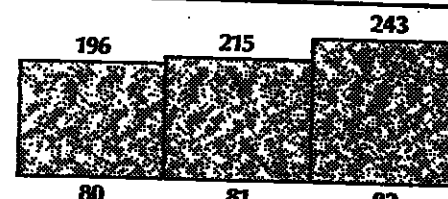
Laporte

Highlights from the Statement by the Chairman at the Annual General Meeting, 3rd June 1983

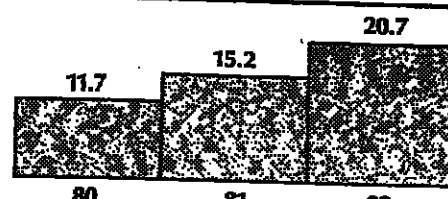
- 1982 profit up 36%
- 1982 dividend up 25%
- good start to 1983
- rights issue announced 3.6.83

"Looking at the future is always difficult and doubly so in these difficult economic times. However, the 1982 results reflect the continuing upward trend of our increasingly diversified specialist chemical businesses. The Group has a sound history of all-round progress behind it; there is no reason why progress should not be maintained in 1983". R.M. Ringwald, CBE.

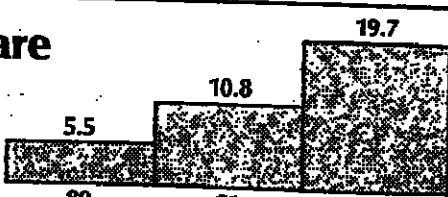
Sales (£million)



Pre-tax profits (£million)



Earnings per share (pence)



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Copies of the 1982 Report and Accounts and of the Chairman's Statement can be obtained from The Secretary, Laporte Industries (Holdings) PLC, 14 Hanover Square, London W1R 0BE.

150 من الاصل

DAVID
MILLER

Reexamination

As we left, politely saying we hoped he knew somewhere quiet to go if and when the revolution arrived, three other distinct who had overheard the exchange said to me that I did not understand the problem, that it was difficult to explain. I said I agreed that any satisfactory explanation was indeed difficult.

Fortunately, that is not the end of the story. We crossed the street to another restaurant, where we had an excellent meal, with service and attention which would have been a credit to Claridges, and as we left the waiter and the proprietor, both white, were waiting to ask for the autograph of the man who, as the International Olympic Committee would relent, is capable of winning an Olympic medal. They had recognized him, and not only congratulated him but invited him back whenever you can come, and bring your friend."

DAVID MILLER

Incidents such as this persuaded me on a social and political as well as a sporting basis that the South African argument needed re-examination, and I went there for the first time from a starting point of complete conviction that the boycott stance was morally correct; that the end — the amendment of the many hated segregation laws implementing apartheid — justified the means.

What became apparent were two unmistakable factors: that there is an approximate dividing line among whites, somewhere between the 20 and 40, separating the old "superior white" attitude and the liberal thinking of a modern generation which is awake to morality and reality, and that if a bloody revolution is to be avoided, then the best interest of the non-white in South Africa will now be served by admitting if not all then certainly some of the major sports such as football, athletics and boxing, into the international arena.

This interpretation of the present state of social evolution may be particularly relevant in the light of forthcoming events: the special meeting of MCC to discuss sending an official tour, the court case brought by the South African Athletic Union against the IAAF for illegal suspension, and the decision to be taken by a new president on next year's projected rugby tour by England.

The readmission of South Africa internationally, even on selected fronts only, would have the effect of altering the erroneous concept which the majority of the rest of the world has of an exclusively white orientated country. I believe that the outside world is now tending to look at the isolation issue from totally the wrong aspect - whether the white man has made sufficient concessions and compromises in a hated administration to be given back his ball, his much-prized privileged membership of various international clubs, rather than

whether the black coloured man can use the sporting platform to help create for his country a multiracial image such as Brazil's which will internationally dignify his ethnic race, expand his self-respect and prestige, while internally accelerating social and political changes already in motion and ensuring they are irreversible.

This view will be said by the committed forces of the left to be naïve; that the non-white can never achieve dignity and prestige while he is denied, outside sport, so many freedoms. To which one can only answer that other than by the sporting boycott, there is nothing which the outside world, and liberal South African whites, demand for that country can only be achieved by evolutionary degrees; that the external sporting boycott has now become *the ultimate limit* of political effectiveness and is about to become rapidly counter-productive in encouraging reactionary right-wing extremism by the Conservative and Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (Apartheid Opposition parties to the Government (increasingly liberal) Government).

Lip service

While it was apparent leveling to half a dozen different cities that some white still speak with forked tongue; that they pay lip service to integration without actually believing in it; that they now grudgingly acknowledge the need to change, they could equally well have seen 25 years ago without the encouragement of external pressure, it is abundantly obvious, that that double standards exist in the United Nations backed left wing world which is determined to keep South Africa excluded everywhere at all cost. What could be more hypocritical than the stand of the French government banning the rugby team, while permitting the government supported Renault team to compete in the South

When I interviewed Hassan Howa, the former secretary of the South African Council of Sport and a militant opponent

now of all cricket tours, he was quick to point out that many of the greatest sportsmen in history, Owens, Louis, Pele, Ali and Sachin, had never before emerged had they been born in South Africa. Not in the past certainly, but now they could: and what force of argument, what international identity could be exerted for the oppressed majority by the sporting South Africa equivalent of a Lech Walesa. It is now difficult to avoid the conclusion that, within sport, the racismism, in South Africa is exhibited among non-whites.

Additional problems for sport are twofold: that the majority of those foreigners who seek to get South Africa readmitted are either of a conspicuously right wing allegiance, such as John Carlisle and his friends in the Freedom in Sport organization, or are professionally orientated with a vested interest in the financial potential of the South African market.

It is stretching credibility to suppose that they are all deeply and sincerely concerned with the welfare of the Johannesburg diamond mine dormitory dwelling labourer who sees his family in his homeland for a few weeks in the year, or with the one black child who dies of malnutrition every 15 minutes. Though I grant them the possibility that they may be.

There is unfortunately no chance, now and in the future, to separate sport and politics. It suits the political left to focus on white South Africa contra-

vention of human rights as a counterbalance to the extremism of Eastern Europe, Central Africa and elsewhere, and they are vastly more successful in practice, for no other country is scrutinized to the same degree for sporting acceptance or rejection as the outside world. The IOC which refuses to send a commission of investigation, having promised to do so if South Africa withdrew its request at the Baden-Baden congress for readmission — is not aware of the extent to which the present government is trying to move unerringly

A white Stellenbosch University-educated economist said to me on a flight from Durban: "We on the liberal, middle ground would like the government to have moved much farther and faster, but had they done so, the reaction from the extreme right would have become dangerous. One of these days, the black man is going to run this country."

Survived

The Pretoria Council may have closed the city parks in the worst imaginable piece of public relations, but the fact is that South Africa has had black presidents in its non-racial football and cricket administrations, a black vice-president in athletics, which is rather more than you can imagine happening in England for some years to come. The Botha government is committed to spending £300m

on sport over the next five years, the majority of it to the benefit of non-whites - a practical demonstration of the shift in ideology which lies behind the projected presidential council embracing coloured and Asian prime ministers under an executive president.

Dr Danie Craven, for almost 30 years the leader of South African rugby, has survived attempts by the secret Broederbond society to dominate rugby, because his international contacts became crucial after isolation - though the Broederbond still attempt to influence the choice of captain. Craven, who personally apologised to Basil d'Oliveira when he was banned by Prime Minister Vorster, has battled to embrace all races in rugby.

But Craven believes the onus is now on England to rationalize world opinion about South African sport, if all the changes that have been made to the advantage of the non-white are not to be wasted. "We in sport have thrown open all the doors, fought our government and now the people who should be on our side are fighting against us. If I let my emotions out, I would hate England for the way she has turned, but I'm proud of my English background. Everywhere I go, people are waiting for England to give the lead, but they won't wait for ever. The English influence is still there, but where is the leadership?"

Tomorrow: The SACOS case for isolation, and the answer.

Warren insists he is still in charge

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

No matter where Joe Bugner goes in the next 18 months he will find, like it or not, Frank Warren standing by to collect his 25 per cent as his manager. Even though Bugner took on Marvin Frazier in Atlantic City on Saturday without his manager's permission and has not told him where he plans to go next, Warren maintains: "I'm still his manager. And where he fights I will lodge my contract with the commission of that place." Bugner may find Warren sticking closer to him over the 18 months the contract still has to run than young Frazier did over 10 rounds.

But Warren insisted that it was not the 25 per cent that mattered so much as the principle. He said that if he let Bugner get away with arranging his contests other boxers could get ideas and go their own way too. Ray Clarke, the secretary of the British Boxing Board of Control, concurred: "We would lose all our fighters in 12 months" he said.

The Frazier bout had been arranged, Warren claimed, by Bugner's wife, Marlene, who, according to Warren, had no standing with either the British board or the New Jersey State Athletic Commission under whose auspices the Atlantic City fight was held. Warren said Marlene made by Marlene be lost, Earnie Shavers and now Marvin Frazier," Warren said. "He had no business taking on this up and coming young fighter. Now who wants to know about Bugner? It just goes to prove that the board should not be allowed to make fights. It is extremely dangerous for the well being of the boxer."

Of his purse of \$75,000 Bugner has \$31,000 left. The Federal Government has taken \$23,000. \$18,000 has been withheld by the New Jersey commission pending an inquiry in two week's time, and \$3,000 has gone in training expenses.

Now there is only one contest left for Bugner. Warren admitted. Against Frank Bruno. But the London promoter, who is suing "certain papers" for libel, made it clear that should any other promoter feel inclined to swoop on his boxer, he also would have to reckon with his legal eagles.

like that" Warren said "I had a fight lined up in South Africa with John Tate for £120,000. If he had stayed here, what with Pierce giving up his heavyweight title claim he would have fought for the British title and got nomination for the European and been on his way to a world title fight. Warren said that he had even been prepared to pay any money that might have been outstanding to Bessie. The first of the Melody

[illegible]

● Paris (AP) - The World Boxing Council has decided to ask their middleweight champion, Marvin Hagler, to a meeting to determine if he has abandoned the WBC title, the council president, José Sulaimán, has announced. Hagler has refused to accept WBC rules that call for 12-round rather than the traditional 15-round bouts.

GOLF

Opening for Parkin

A total of 1,107 players, slightly fewer than last year, have entered next month's Open championship at Royal Birkdale. The retiring Royal and Ancient secretary, Keith Mackenzie, described the field as "The highest quality ever seen in Britain".

The number of players exempt from qualifying is 70, including the newly-crowned Amateur champion, Philip Parkin, and the winner of the US Open later this month. Another 10 could come from the State Express Classic at the Belfry in the week before the Open.

A further 303 are exempt from regional qualifying and they will be joined in the final qualifying competition by the 197 players who come through the area rounds.

Because of the new handicapping system there are only 103 amateurs entered, over 100 fewer than last

year, but the total number of countries represented has gone up from 25 to 29. The best-known names who have already informed Mackenzie that they will not be coming over are the Americans, Bruce, Lietzke, Andy North and Lou Graham, and the Japanese. 1220

Aoki. ■ Peter McEvoy has the chance to reestablish his high standing after a period of indifferent form when he plays for England in the European men's amateur team championship at Chantilly, June 22 to 26. McEvoy, the Amateur champion in 1977 and 1978, is preferred to Peter Deebie who, despite some fine play this year, is listed as a non-travelling reserve.

TEAM: G Banks (non-playing captain), P Hodgson, S Kapur, P McEvoy, A Ockrom, J Paxton, J Thompson, J Horncovell.

RESERVE: P Deebie, A Shorebourne, C Banks.

More conf. news 24.

[illegible]

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For this key appointment, we invite applications from well-educated and mature candidates, aged 25-30, with at least 4 years' experience, preferably in an international organisation where administrative skills and representational qualities have been developed. Responsibilities will include operating the PADEX 7 switchboard in the elegant reception area, making national/international travel local bookings, ensuring the flowchart display are kept fresh, and, of course, dealing with the overseas visitors, etc. Accurate, neat typing will be required for guest lists, memoranda, etc. In addition, a pleasant and a naturally helpful manner are considered essential qualities. Salary negotiable £6,000 - £7,500 + mortgage assistance, non-contributory pension, free life insurance, free BUPA, season ticket loan and £1.00 LVA. Applications, in strict confidence, under reference F582/77, to the Managing Director.

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In the third of a series of interviews with the four party leaders, Julian Haviland, Political Editor, talks to Margaret Thatcher about her hopes for a second term

Mrs Thatcher: Exhilarated by the campaign

Are you exhilarated by campaigning, or is it a strain? When I am out on a campaign trail, yes, I am exhilarated by it. Nevertheless it seems to be quite a long campaign, because my mind cannot help addressing itself to the longer term problems and yet I have to discipline myself and say, no, you must not count your chickens.

It is really quite a tussle, because by nature I like to have everything prepared. I would like to know I have to make at the weekend, but unless I get it right on Thursday, I won't be able to make those decisions, so you see the constant tussle.

I think it will be because people voted for us last time to take a different direction, and they are endorsing that because they know what we are doing is fundamentally sound. They believe that, given time, it will work. So it is a combination of both.

If the electors' hope is betrayed, would you expect retribution in 1987 or 1988?

I do not believe their hope will be betrayed. I think the other way we were going led to the relative decline of this country. We are now starting to compete and I am sure the way we are going is the way to go.

When you tell a television interviewer not to stop you because you are in "full flood", is that because you are excited, or a little overbearing, or what?

No, he (Brian Walden on *Weekend World*) asked me a question about our strategy for jobs. That is crucial to the whole election, and I most certainly was not going to give only half an answer, and the advertisers had to wait.

Now you have done the job, are you more confident of your capacity than you were in your 1979 campaign?

Yes.

Is there an issue above all on which this election has turned?

I think defence has played a bigger part than in any other election I remember, and I think it is the general handling of the economy. I think the question there is do you go for the magic cure, which you know will not cure, and is not magic, and does not exist, or do you address yourself to the fundamental problems which in your heart of hearts you know you ought to have addressed yourself to years ago. That, I think, is why we are winning.

If Labour is crushed tomorrow, what effect do you think that will have on our national life?

I think it would lead to the kind of reform of the Labour Party which Gaiskell wanted to pursue, and that would be very much better for everyone, in my view - it is not my party, but in my view - because state socialism is totally alien to the British character.

6 Oh, I have lots of human weaknesses?

Your manifesto claims that the Government is "straightforward and resolute". But are you so resolute? When you face awkward decisions like whether to hold a general election you differ like most of us, don't you? No. Once we decided to have an election we set everything in train extremely quickly. I told interviewers at the new year that asked if this was election year: "I shall not think about it until after I have been in for four years."

I thought voters might be reassured to know you have a human weakness or two.

Oh I have got lots, lots of human weaknesses, who hasn't? When you talk of willingness to contemplate the use of weapons such as Polaris, is it enough for a Prime Minister to be resolute, patriotic, hostile to the Soviet system? Or does she need subtlety, and flexibility, and wisdom in judging an adversary's real intentions?



Photograph: Bill Warhurst

I think you always need subtlety and wisdom. You need to look at the facts. The facts are that Andropov has been head of the KGB; that the Soviet Union has had mounting expenditure on its defence system; has deprived its people of sufficient food and consumer goods to have mounting defence. It has mounting naval strength and submarine strength and nuclear strength.

I happen to believe that you are more likely to negotiate disarmament from strength than from weakness; more likely to be able to take a constructive but unblinkered view of the Soviet Union on other matters - trade, travel, being able to get people out - if you are strong. Strength is more likely to get disarmament on both sides.

Do you believe there will be progress towards controlled disarmament? Yes I do. One of the things they (the Soviet Union) are waiting for is the result of this election. Chancellor Kohl's was a crucial election for the whole Western alliance. I think once he (Mr Andropov) knows he has got a strong Prime Minister, a strong Chancellor Kohl, a strong government here, he is much, much more likely to move.

You have asked for a large majority. Do you find yourself becoming impatient, as your opponents allege, with the democratic constraints on a Prime Minister's great power? No, I do not find myself becoming impatient in any way, I am a democrat. I am here only by virtue and power of the ballot. Obviously I want maximum support for my policies. Who does

not? Of course. But I want it the only way: from the ballot box. If the electors decide in their wisdom that you should have an adequate majority for a full parliament, but no more than adequate, you will not think that unreasonable?

I have to accept the decision of the ballot box. The important thing is that the ballot box continues. I have to accept whatever is their decision. I naturally hope and want as big a support for my policies as I can possibly get, because I believe they are right, and because I think that for the world to know that I have large support means also that Britain rejects totally the kind of state socialism that has been put forward.

6 As big a majority as I can possibly get?

Will there be much room in your Cabinet for new blood? Oh, it is always one of the very difficult questions that, you know. It is the worst thing that a prime minister has to do. Everyone says "you must get in so-and-so and so-and-so", and I say "yes, and so-and-so and so-and-so. Now tell me, who am I going to put out? You always have to keep the thing on the move, you have to, because your young people are entitled to feel that when they perform well they have some hope of being promoted."

But it is very very difficult, and you explain to people 'look, it isn't that you have done things wrong,

but I just have to make room, and aren't you fortunate in a way to have had the privilege of being in government for a time.' It is the most difficult thing I have to do, but it has to be done, and I have to screw myself up to do it. But you have decided on your new appointments, haven't you?

No I have not. This again is my not counting chickens. But it will not take me long to make up my mind when I face it. And always, always you must understand - I am painted as the greatest little dictator, which is ridiculous - you always take some consultations. One thing that has got to be known quickly is the name of the new Foreign Secretary and the Chancellor. Is that right?

I am not sure, because last time the majority did not come through until about 4 o'clock in the afternoon - 317 seats - and obviously I was not going to move until I knew that we had an actual majority. Now I don't know when the majority would come through this time. I am not sure whether we go to the Palace or not. I think in the past Mr Wilson and Mr Macmillan did not. But I don't know, we'll have to decide that at the time. But then, immediately one got some of one's senior colleagues here to consult, and then we started the next day. But don't forget that next day is Trooping the Colour, so I am not sure at the moment when it would be best to do any Cabinet changes. But we don't count chickens. Has it crossed your mind that you may lose?

Yes it has crossed my mind, but it has only just flitted through it.

Tomorrow: Roy Jenkins

Frank Johnson's campaign trail

Festive greetings from Humpty Dumpty

Tomorrow the final day, will have to be spent with the Prime Minister. Yesterday, on the penultimate day, what could there possibly be left to see or hear? Labour's morning press conference? It announced the findings of the latest Healey Poll. This showed that Labour would win the election. Giving the details, Mr Denis Healey said that the polls in the national newspapers did not tally with those carried out in individual constituencies by regional newspapers, and by Labour's private pollsters.

No doubt Dr David Butler has an answer to that argument. But Mr Healey went ahead and gave us his figures. His statistical sample appeared to be drawn from a representative cross section of Labour voters.

Next, Mr Roy Hattersley got up, unveiled a chart on an easel and started talking rapidly about social spending. Mr Michael Foot, and the rest of us, slumped.

"Compassion guides all we do," Mr Hattersley found himself saying, in what we must hope was a subliminal reference to the way in which Mr Foot should be treated by his party after Thursday.

In about a week from now Mr Hattersley's speeches will become interesting again. For they will be concerned with denunciations of the left for costing Labour the election. Until then, there is no further interest in what he has to say on any subject - unless of course he cares to start making those speeches before tomorrow.

Next, Mr Foot, asked to talk about Mr Kinnoch's views on the battle of Goose Green, talked about Mr Kinnoch's views on youth unemployment, and the way in which they had not been given equal prominence by television.

It was time to flee. But to where? Mr Clive Jenkins was going on a walkabout in Bethel Green, said the Labour Party's list of the day's engagements. Must avoid Bethel Green, then.

At Peterborough there was to be a meeting addressed by Lord Kaldor, one of the leading figures in the Hungarian uprising against the British economy in the 1960s. Mr Foot was off to Wales. Mr Silkin was somewhere in Kent, Mr Benn in Bristol.

Consistent with the list's endearing policy of not leaving out completely obscure trade unionists, there were a few less than five engagements for Mr Jack Boddy.

One assumed him to be an obscure trade unionist. Whoever he was, he would be walking about in Repton, it said. Perhaps he was just doing his shopping. If not, let us hope that the Repton police had no difficulty in identifying the Boddy.

No, it was time to seek solace in this ever-changing world by rejoining the campaign of Mr Roy Jenkins. He was last seen in this space at the start of the campaign, charming the female shoppers in Peterborough.

Yesterday, we caught up with him charming the female shoppers in Guildford. Assuming that they were not the same female shoppers being used around the country by the SDP, Mr Jenkins is now even more admired by female shoppers.

I am not persuaded that Mr Jenkins's comfortable campaign style has been a handicap to the Alliance. He has that element of self-parody always present in truly serious people.

It is a little lacking in Mr Jenkins's "house" in Mrs Thatcher, much of her "house" being attributable to it. People recognize it immediately in a politician, and like it, for it creates a character.

Yesterday a large, fat chef, with a bushy beard and a chef's hat, stalked across the street at Farnham to ask Mr Jenkins to lift the value-added tax on restaurants, conscious perhaps that this politician was a trenchant international class who had eaten for England in the gastronomic capital of Europe, Brussels.

"I like big men in small businesses," beamed Mr Jenkins. The chef thought him an extremely good sort.

Mr Jenkins put his face through the window of a car in a traffic jam. Having that similar, agreeable, Humpty Dumpty head suddenly in your vehicle, must have been unnerving at first.

But the two occupants and Mr Jenkins got on very well because all three turned out to be Welsh. What did he say, I asked the woman in the passenger seat. "Merry Christmas and happy New Year," she said.

This seemed odd. But she quoted Mr Jenkins as saying that these were among the few words he knew in Welsh.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal Engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh give a reception at Buckingham Palace for the World Cup Cricket teams.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Chancellor, visits Cambridge University for two days, arriving 3.15.

The Prince of Wales attends the launch of the Conservation Development Programme for the United Kingdom at Logan Hall, London University, 20 Bedford Way, WC1, 10.

Princess Anne dines with the Prime Minister and the Court of the

Fishmongers' Company at Fishmongers' Hall, 7.30.

The Duke of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief of the Gloucestershire Regiment, accompanied by the Duchess of Gloucester, attends the Beating of Retreat by massed bands of the Regiments of the Prince of Wales's Division, Horse Guards Parade, 6.20.

The Duke of Kent visits the Courage Brewery at Reading 11.30, and opens the Reading Information Technology Centre, 12.20.

Princess Alexandra visits the headquarters of the Royal College of Companies, Wenlock Road, N1, 2.30.

New exhibitions

Penny dreadfuls and comics 1860-1960, Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, Cambridge Heath Road, E2; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.50, closed Fridays (until Oct 2).

The Islamic Perspective: Islamic influence on British architecture and design in the nineteenth century, Leighton House, 12 Holland Park Road, W14; Mon to Fri 11 to 6, Sat 11 to 5 (until July 23).

Paintings by Guy Raddon, Holmes Place Gallery, 188 Fulham Palace, SW10; Mon to Fri 10 to 9, Sat 10 to 6 (until June 18).

Cosmo Clark retrospective, Bankside Gallery, 48 Hopton Street, SE1; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 6 (until June 30).

Dictates of fashion 1760-1800, by S. M. Brock, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 2.

Fifty Years Hard: an author looks back, by Geoffrey Trease, Nottingham Festival, Trent Polytechnic, Shakespeare Street, Nottingham, 7.

Manuscript illumination, 12, and Book of Hours, 2, by Jane Lee, British Library.

Art between the wars de Chirico and the origins of surrealism, by Richard Huelsenbeck, Cubism vs naturalism, by Chris Green, 6.30, Tate Gallery.

Christianity and the arts - on literature, by the Very Rev D. L. Edwards, Southwark Cathedral, 1.10.

The church from the beginning to 1666, by Dr Richard Cox, St Mary le Bow Crypt, EC4, 1.05.

The Parthenon sculptures: the frieze, by Ian Jenkins, 11.30; Marble sculptures: cleaning and conservation, by Geoffrey Foster, 1.15; British Museum.

Courbet and Millet, by Felicity Woolf, National Gallery.

Norman Mailer, with Melvyn Bragg, on his new book *American*, ICA, The Mall.

Celia Fennes at Bretby, by Charles Saumarez Smith, Victoria and Albert, 1.15.

Music Recital by Esther Lamandier, St John's Church, South Parade, 1. Recital by Noël Leo, Assembly Rooms, 7.30; both in Bath Festival.

Organ recital by Roy Massey, Hereford Cathedral, 1.15.

City and County in Concert: Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, with Nigel Kennedy (violin), Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham, 7.30.

John Williams and friends play Vivaldi, Guildhall, Portsmouth, 7.30.

Cambridge University Musical Society concert, Kings College Chapel, Cambridge, 8.30.

Piano recital by Sandra Rigby, St Mark's Regent's Park, 8.

Concert by the Alexandra Ensemble, Cyril Fradan, 23 Lower Addison Gardens, W14, 7.45.

British Evening, City of London Sinfonia, Barbican Centre, 7.45.

Concert by Morley College Choir and Chamber Orchestra, Southwark Cathedral, 8.

Alterations with Misha Mengelberg (piano), The Almeida, 295 Upper Street, Islington, 8.

Talks

Dictates of fashion 1760-1800, by S. M. Brock, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 2.

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Portico and Dockyard, meet Victory Gate, HM Naval Base, Portsmouth, 2.30.

New books - hardback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week: A Collection of British Writers from the 17th Century, edited by Nigel Smith, foreword by John Carey (Junction, £12.95).

County Dairies, by Nicholas Pevsner, revised by Elizabeth Williamson, Buildings of England (Dent, £14.95).

Henry James, by Owen Chadwick (Oxford, £18.50).

Mr George Eliot, a biography of George Henry Lewis, by David Williams (Hodder & Stoughton, £12.95).

Napoleon: Abel Gance's classic film, by Kevin Brownlow (Cape, £10.95).

Rome's North West Frontier, the Antonine Wall, by William Hanson & Gordon Maxwell (Edinburgh, £17.50).

Revels, a classification guide, by Peter Harrison (Croom Helm, £15.95).

The Façade of the 19th Century, by Robert Wynne (Harcourt, £2.95).

West Country Fly Fishing, an anthology edited by Anne Voss Bark (Batsford, £9.95).

German measles

In view of the rising number of cases of German measles, women planning to start a family, who do not know if they are immune to the disease, are advised to consult their doctor or ask to be vaccinated at their clinic. If the disease is contracted during the first 16 weeks of pregnancy, the baby may be born with one or several handicaps.

Vaccination before pregnancy is the only way for a woman to ensure protection of the first 16 weeks. It is not already immune. A woman who is already pregnant and who thinks she might have been in contact with someone with German measles during the first 16 weeks should see her doctor immediately. A simple blood test should determine whether she is protected against the disease.

Anniversaries

Frank Lloyd Wright, architect was born at Richfield, Wisconsin, 1867. Death: Harbington, Kent, England (1940-42) and of Denmark, London, 1959. President of the United States (1923-37), Nashville, Tennessee, 1845; Sir Joseph Paxton, designer of the Crystal Palace, London, 1845; General Malety Hopkins, Dublin, 1889; Nikolay Rimsky-Korsakov (new style June 21), Leningrad, Soviet Union, 1908; Helen Carran, poet, New Canaan, Connecticut, 1929.

The pound

	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell
Australia	1.86	1.77
Belgium	29.55	27.99
Canada	83.60	78.50
Denmark	1.99	1.91
Finland	14.97	14.22
France	9.86	8.58
Germany	12.17	11.92
Greece	14.7	3.96
Hong Kong	136.00	128.00
Ireland	1.32	1.15
Italy	2475.00	2355.00
Japan	366.00	376.00
Netherlands	4.68	4.45
Norway	11.80	11.28
Portugal	168.00	154.00
Spain	16.14	15.88
Sweden	223.50	212.50
Switzerland	12.38	11.85
USA	3.45	3.28
Yugoslavia	1.62	1.56
	139.00	131.00

Notes for most denominations bank notes only, as quoted by Reuters Bank International. States Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency banks.

Retail Price Index: 332.5.

London: The FT Index closed up 6.9 at 710.3.

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England, Telephone: 01-437 1334. Telex: 24971. Wednesday June 8 1983. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

Weather forecast

A depression with associated frontal troughs will move steadily northwards

6 am to midnight

London, East Angles, SE England, Midlands: Thunder showers soon dying out, sunny periods, perhaps scattered showers later; wind S or SW, moderate, locally fresh; max 18 to 20C; (64 to 68F).

Central, S, SW England, Channel Islands: S, W, sunny periods, showers later, heavy in places; wind mainly S, moderate, locally fresh at first; max 17 to 19C (63 to 66F).

E, NE England, County, scattered thunder rain dying out, sunny intervals; wind SE, veering S or SW, moderate, locally fresh at first; max 14 to 16C (57 to 61F).

N Wales, NW, Central N England, Lake District, Isle of Man: Cloudy, drizzly rain, showers, sunny intervals; wind moderate or heavy; wind variable, light, becoming mainly S, moderate; max 12 to 14C (54 to 57F).

Border, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Cloudy, drizzly showers, brighter intervals; wind SE veering SW, moderate, locally fresh; max 14 to 15C (57 to 59F).

SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland: Cloudy, drizzly rain, showers, sunny intervals; wind variable, cyclonic, becoming NW, light or moderate; normal max 15 to 17C (59 to 63F).

Money First, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Bright, cloudier later, rain in places; wind SE, moderate, locally fresh, becoming variable light; max 13 to 14C (55 to 57F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Sunny intervals and showers, drizzly in places, becoming dry from W on Friday. Near normal temperatures.

Sea: Sea breeze S, West Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind S moderate or fresh, sun and light showers; S, West Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind S moderate or fresh, sun and light showers; S, West Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind S moderate or fresh, sun and light showers.

Sun rises: 4.45 am. Moon sets: 8.25 am. New Moon: June 11.

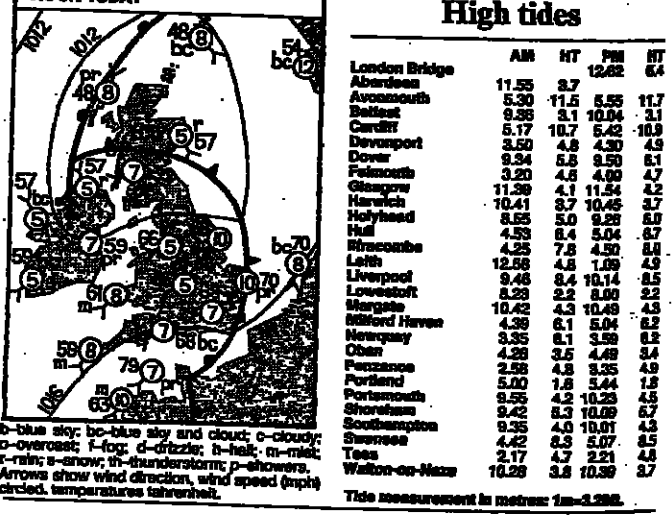
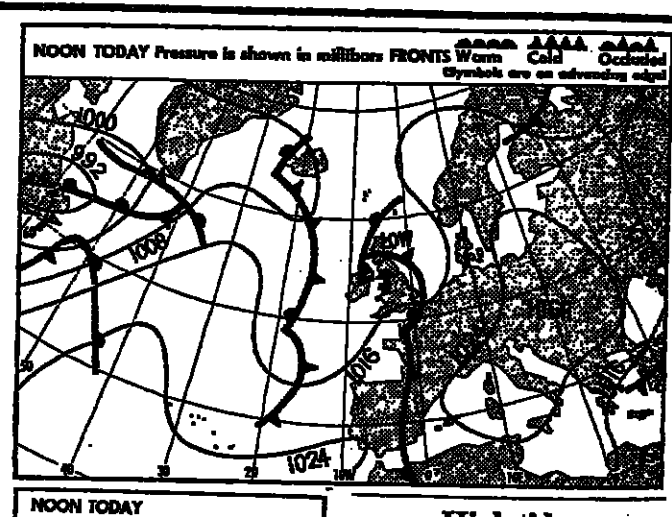
Lighting-up time

London 6.44 pm to 6.15 am. Bristol 6.54 pm to 6.42 am. Manchester 10.00 pm to 6.11 am. Penzance 5.59 pm to 4.45 am.

Temperatures at midday yesterday, C, cloud, i, fair, s, sun.

London

Highest and lowest



Around Britain

Sun	Rain	Max	Sun	Rain	Max
in	C		in	C	
St Andrews	5.1	-12	54	Cloudy	
Stirling	6.0	-12	54	Cloudy	
Strathgordon	6.8	-14	57	Bright	
Strathmore	6.8	-18	56	Bright	
Lowestoft	12.9	-18	66	Sunny	
Colchester	11.9	-17	68	Sunny	
Worcester	15.2	-16	61	Sunny	
Polknares	12.8	-24	76	Sunny	
Worcester	10.7	-19	76	Sunny	
Worcester	10.0	-23	75	Bright	
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